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FRESH VIOLENCE

More Central forces rushed to Manipur

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MUSINGS FROM SPACE

Samantha Harvey wins Booker

WORLD » PAGE 16

PARLIAMENTARY POLLS

Sri Lanka to head for booths today

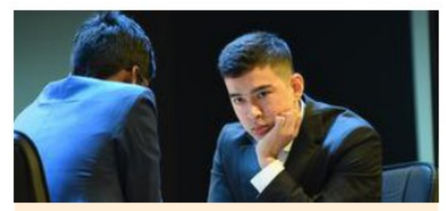
WORLD » PAGE 16

NO FAIR PLAY

Perfect cocktail of layered discrimination

Delimitation norms hurt successful States

EDITORIAL » PAGE 10



PULLING AHEAD

Abdusattorov in the lead after day one

SPORT » PAGE 17

SC puts brakes on 'bulldozer culture'

Bench says States indulging in naked display of 'might is right'; issues 'binding directives' that include 15 days' prior notice to occupants

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Wheels of injustice: Workers razing the property of an accused in an RSS attack case in Jaipur in October, citing violations. PTI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said the States that metamorphose into judges to punish accused persons awaiting trial by driving bulldozers into their homes, indulge in a naked display of "might is right" without sparing a thought for families rendered shelterless overnight.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and K.V. Viswanathan invoked extraordinary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to issue a slew of "binding directives" to fasten accountability on public officials.

They include 15 days' prior notice of demolition to the occupants with details of the nature of the unauthorised construction and grounds warranting demolition; the owner or occupants who want to challenge the State action must be given a fair opportunity; the demolition must be videographed, etc.

Officials will face action

Officials who violate these directives would face contempt action and would be prosecuted. They would be liable for the restitution of the demolished property, the court said. The judgment followed petitions representing citizens from States, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, who had sought redress against the States' "bulldozer culture".

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Jharkhand records over 66% turnout; Wayanad sees 64.24%

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The first phase of the Jharkhand Assembly election on Wednesday saw a voter turnout of 66.51% till 11.50 p.m., while the Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll in Kerala recorded a polling percentage of 64.24.

Among the 31 Assembly seats where byelections were held, Gambegre in Meghalaya saw the highest turnout at 90.93%. Tarari in Bihar was the lowest at 50.2%.

In Jharkhand, 43 out of 81 constituencies voted in the first phase, while the rest will go to the polls on November 20. Votes will be counted on November 23.

Trinamool worker dies

A Trinamool Congress worker was shot dead near the Naihati constituency in West Bengal.

In Wayanad, Congress leader Priyanka Vadra is pitted against Navya Haridas of the BJP and the CPI's Sathyan Mokeri. There were reports of breakdown of some electronic voting machines in a few booths there.

JMM candidate Kalpana Soren leaving a polling booth in Ranchi on Wednesday. PTI

In Jharkhand, the 43 seats that went to the polls included 17 general seats, six reserved for the Scheduled Castes and 20 for the Scheduled Tribes.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Bypolls to 3 Assembly seats in State pass off peacefully

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Byelections to three Assembly constituencies in Karnataka – Channapatna, Shiggaon, and Sandur – on Wednesday passed off peacefully with an impressive average turnout of 81.8%, which is slightly higher than the average 81.2% recorded in 2023. This number is likely to change after reconciliation of numbers on Thursday.

While Channapatna recorded 88.80% polling, over 3 percentage points higher than in 2023, Shiggaon maintained its 2023 turnout of 80.46%, registering 80.48% in the bypolls.

The poll percentage declined marginally in Sandur that recorded 76.24% this time as against 77.39% in 2023. While voting was largely peaceful, polling was affected during the first half of the day at a few polling booths.

However, brisk polling resumed in the second half. More than seven lakh voters were eligible to cast their votes in about 770 polling stations across the three constituencies.

In the morning, as booths opened at 7 a.m., people started arriving at the polling booths, especially in Channapatna.

Many senior citizens, some in wheelchairs, were seen lining up to cast their votes to avoid the rush later.

A few residents at Dandinpet in Savanur, Shiggaon constituency, boycotted polling in protest against not being given records of their occupancy rights, despite attempts by the authorities to convince them.

At Siddapura polling station of Sandur, polling was affected for the first three hours as villagers were busy attending a *jatra* (village festival). But they got back to vote later, pointed out Manoj Kumar Meena, Chief Electoral Officer for Karnataka.

A total of 45 candidates are in the fray in the byelections, necessitated after former Chief Ministers H.D. Kumaraswamy and Basavaraj Bommai, and Congress's E. Tukaram were elected as members of the Lok Sabha.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

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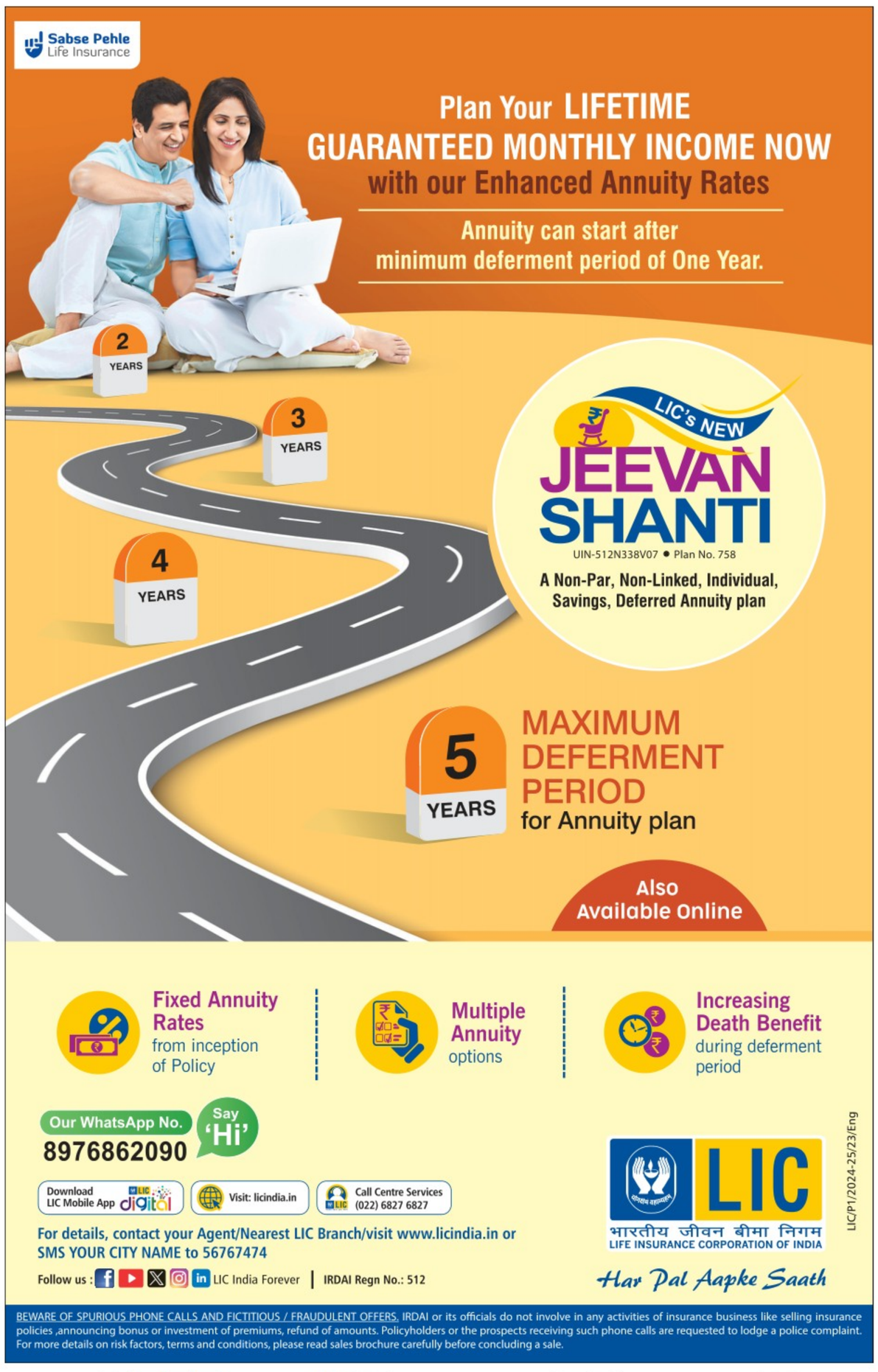
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I have to find a more practical side to the game, play a little bit more dirty

I feel one of the things is that when I play at my best, the level is very high. And I want to keep being able to replicate that and keep pushing myself. But the tangible goal, I'll speak when I'm closer to it. I want to improve every day and I don't want to be stagnant. Stagnancy is like death

B. VELANKANNI RAJ

INTERVIEW

VIDIT GUJRATHI

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

At the second edition of the Chennai Grandmasters classical chess tournament, Vidit Gujrathi spoke about his overall performance, his key takeaways, the need for classical chess to be modified, Indian men's gold-medal winning performance at the 2024 Olympiad and what it means for Indian chess, his thoughts on the upcoming World Championship match between Gukesh and Ding Liren, the complicated FIDE Circuit, and his immediate and long-term goals. *Excerpts:*

The tournament didn't begin well for you. You squandered your advantage and when the game seemed poised for a draw, blundered to concede Arjun Erigaisi the win in the first round. Since then, you've seemed disappointed with the way things have gone for you. What are your thoughts on your overall performance?

Yes, of course, I'm not happy with the result (overall performance – two losses, five draws). Because, in the first game (against Arjun Erigaisi), I had an excellent chance to win. And it's a game which I should never have lost as I had multiple ways to force a draw. It was a moment of hallucination in that first game, which really changed the dynamics of the tournament.

Had I won that game, the tournament would have been completely different, because the next round also I was winning (in a winning position, but lost). In the fourth round, I had a winning position. So, there were too many chances. I'm creating good chances, but this time format is such that after 40 moves, you don't get additional time.

So, for my style, it doesn't suit me, this format. I remember playing in Sharjah Masters (no additional time after 40 moves) earlier last year. There also I had a similar problem. I was getting good positions, but due to no additional time, I was not able to convert those. Because, my style is to play long games and convert into wins. That's why, in Isle of Man and Wijk aan Zee (Tata Steel Masters), which have a very long time control, I end up doing really well. But that's something that I need to work on, because chess is changing. And I have to find the right balance of precision and speed.

What are your key takeaways from the tournament?

Yes, a couple of things. For example, I have to improve my play in time scramble. Because, many of the games have changed there. Actually, not many, but all the games have changed there. That's one of the biggest things for me.

Also, the speed in general. I'm a bit of a perfectionist. And I have to find a more practical side to the game – play a little bit more dirty. I try to find the best move and play a good game. But then, you end up burning a lot of time. Even if you get a good position, you don't have enough time to convert it. Sometimes, you have to roll the dice and not be sure of everything.

Levon Aronian has said that Chess960 is the future of chess, while Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (France) has gone with rapid and blitz. What's your opinion?

I don't know. I think probably all of it. I think every format can co-exist. I think classical chess also has to modify. Because, right now, it's not very spectator-friendly in my opinion.

For example, I played in the WR Masters, which had no increment. And the time format was like, I had one hour to make 30 moves. And then, when I was following the matches also, it was much faster to watch. So, even classical has to change.

I think classical chess is struggling with identifying the right format. They haven't found the best format yet. Every format is different.

And regarding Chess960, I really like to play it, because there is no opening preparation. And you can just play pure chess. Because, modern engines have really reduced the chance of getting advantage from opening.

Tell us about the Indian men's gold-winning Olympiad performance...

I think we were all in excellent shape, except maybe Pragg (Praggnanandhaa), who was struggling a bit. And that really showed in the games as well. I don't know what takeaways to have from this tournament. Rather than that, it's a performance which would be hard to replicate, I would say.

What does this feat mean for Indian chess?

I think it's really huge. Because, for example, I was in London recently. And I was on the street walking. Somebody approached and said that

> Gukesh is a heavy favourite because Ding's mindset is not ideal. The only way I see Ding winning this is if he gets some initial wins which would really boost his confidence. And then, he might find his rhythm

they started following chess and have been watching every stream after the Olympiad. I had done a stream that morning, he'd followed that as well. And he told me a lot of stories about how he started playing and watching chess. So, I think new people got interest due to it. And I think the World Championship match, which will happen now, will have a similar effect as well.

What are your thoughts on the upcoming World Championship match?

I mean if you ask anyone, Gukesh is a heavy favourite. Because, Ding's mindset is not ideal. The only way I see Ding winning this, is if he gets some initial wins which would really boost his confidence. And then, he might find his rhythm. But if he doesn't get initial wins, I think his mindset is not ideal for the World Championship.

GMs like Levon Aronian and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave have expressed their dissatisfaction with the current FIDE Circuit points system. What's your take on it?

Yes, I'm not a fan of FIDE Circuit. Because, it's so complicated to even keep a track of it. Also, the balance of tournaments is not the same. I think some Open's victory is higher-rated than, let's say, Fabiano's (Caruana) finish in the Candidates, which is strange.

Because, Candidates is the best tournament in the world. So, the points system is uneven. Also, the FIDE Circuit started before the current Candidates finished. So, when I was preparing for Candidates, the next circuit had already begun, which is strange.

I think it's just too complicated. And I think it needs a reform. But currently, it is what it is, and it's one of the ways to qualify (for the Candidates). So, I'll have to figure out for the next year. It's so complicated that I still don't know all the rules!

Your goals, immediate or long-term?

Yes, of course, there are goals. But as I'm far from it, I'll not voice it. I feel one of the things is that when I play at my best, the level is very high. And I want to keep being able to replicate that and keep pushing myself. But the tangible goal, I'll speak when I'm closer to it. I want to improve every day. I don't want to be stagnant. Stagnancy is like death.

Early social media use among children raises concerns

The Australian govt. recently proposed legislation to ban social media for children under 16, sparking global debates

CHILDREN'S DAY

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

I didn't care much for social media for a long time. But then, all my friends created accounts, and I felt left out. Eventually, I was tempted to join Instagram. Now, I use it to pass time and stay connected with my friends," said a 14-year-old student from a private school in Bengaluru.

From peer pressure to social anxiety, there are various reasons why children today are increasingly active on social media.

Early usage of media

"Anitha M. Kalibhat, School Coordinator, Alpine Public School, said, "As digital interactions dominate, face-to-face communication has diminished, leading to a decline in essential social skills. Children who heavily rely on online platforms miss out on learning vital non-verbal cues, which are crucial for empathy and understanding."

Experts note that children as young as 9 or 10 years old began using social media more frequently during the post-pandemic era. While not all children develop issues from this usage, those with conditions like social anxiety or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) are particularly vulnerable to excessive use.

"Adolescents aged 14 to 19 frequently engage with social media," said Dr. K. John Vijay Sagar, a child psychiatrist at NIMHANS. "They use these platforms to stay connected with both real-life and virtual friends across geographical boundaries. Social media use surged post-pandemic as gadgets became more accessible due to school closures and online classes."

Dr. Sagar explained that adolescents often turn to social media to connect with like-minded individuals, share interests, and discuss topics they might find difficult to explore offline. "Even when faced with adverse experiences, they use social media to seek support by posting or blogging about their challenges, feeling they won't get the same understanding from their immediate social circles."

Illustration: Satheesh Vellinezhi

Risks and concerns

However, Dr. Sagar acknowledged the downsides. "We've seen children spending three to four hours on gadgets after school, leading to behavioural addiction in some cases. Issues like cyberbullying, grooming, and other safety concerns are also prevalent," he said.

To ban or not

The Australian government recently proposed legislation to ban social media for children under 16, sparking global debates on whether such a blanket ban is a viable solution.

In Bengaluru, stakeholders largely agree that a complete ban is neither practical nor effective. "Rather than imposing a ban, adults need to model responsible behaviour. Children often imitate their parents," said Vasudeva Sharma N.V., Executive Director of Child Rights Trust. "While social media has its risks, I have seen some children get the best kind of information through social media. Parents, caregivers, and teachers should guide children on using it positively."

Nirupama G., a parent of two 15-year-olds, echoed this view: "We need to demonstrate the behaviour we want our children to adopt. Avoiding excessive social media use during family time can set a good example. Implementing a ban in a large country like India would be difficult."

Some parents, however, advocate for stricter controls. "There's a lot of harmful content normalised on social media, like drinking and smoking," one parent argued, calling for stringent regulations.

Playgrounds: A mixed bag for parents and children

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A playground at Kengeri in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

On a cloudy Tuesday afternoon, Mahesh brought his daughter, who studies in kindergarten, to the NTI Ground in Vidyaranyapura. The playground, maintained by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), has a basketball court, cricket nets, and ample open space for children to play.

"This is our routine," said Mr. Mahesh. "I bring her here to play after school and then take her home. Later in the evening, once she's done with her schoolwork, we head to the nearby parks."

Engaging offline

As concerns about the negative impact of social media on children grow, so does the question: "How can we engage children outside of the digital world?" For working parents, this challenge is particularly acute. While some families can afford to enrol their children in formal sports training, the spotlight now falls on the availability and condition of public play spaces in the city.

According to BBMP data, Bengaluru has 1,146 parks and 256 playgrounds. However, disparities in their distribution remain stark. For instance, the South Zone boasts 342 parks and 97 playgrounds, while the Mahadevapura Zone, which includes rapidly growing areas like Whitefield, has just 26 parks and three playgrounds.

"Especially in Whitefield, there are hardly any parks," said a resident. "There's one in Nallurahalli, but it's poorly maintained. We even submitted a list of potential public lands for parks and playgrounds, but nothing has come of it."

Safety concerns

Even where parks and playgrounds exist, issues of safety and maintenance persist. In September, an 11-year-old boy lost his life in Malleswaram when an iron gate fell on him. "These days, it gets dark earlier, and the floodlights here don't work," said Santosh, a football coach at NTI Ground. "It's dangerous for children to play in such conditions."

In Halasuru, Bharat Kumar, a resident whose daughter trains at a hockey academy in a BBMP playground, shared similar frustrations. "Seven years ago, funds were allocated to build a gallery here, but construction was abandoned midway. Now, the half-built structures are a haven for alcoholics and drug addicts."

Parents believe improving basic amenities would encourage more families to use these spaces. Suggestions include adequate washroom facilities, drinking water, lounges, and changing rooms.

(With inputs from A. Malvika Mahalaxmi, Malvika Mishra, Humeera Banoo, Anil Bani)

Engineering seat blocking scam: FIR booked against IP addresses

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following a complaint by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) regarding suspected seat-blocking during this year's engineering admissions, Malleshwaram police have registered an FIR against the Internet Protocol (IP) addresses that were used for multiple option entries and registrations.

The police have registered cases under sections 316/2 (criminal breach of trust), 318/4 (cheating) and 35 (right of private defence of the body and property) of BNS and IT Act 66C, which refers to Identity theft and IT Act 66B, which refers to punishment for dishonestly receiving stolen computer resource or communication device.

KEA request action

The KEA has requested the police to investigate the location of the IP addresses and take action against the intermediaries. Suspicions about irregularities arose as some students who had opted for government quota seats in a few top colleges for Computer Science and allied courses did not turn up, resulting in the return of over 2,625 seats to colleges to be filled under management quota at a higher fee.

Meanwhile an in internal KEA probe revealed that the same IP addresses bad been used last year as well to block seats.

The FIR stated that after the second extended (final) round of seat allocation, certain college managements are permitted to fill remaining government quota seats by admitting low-ranking candidates in exchange for higher fees.

To facilitate this, some colleges reportedly manipulate the process by ensuring these seats are allocated to candidates who do not intend to join.

It further stated, "Some candidates who have no intention of taking the seats are being used to make option entries for colleges such as BMS Engineering College, Akash Institute of Engineering & Technology, and New Horizon College of Engineering."

Constable killed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old constable attached to the City Armed Reserve was killed in an accident on the Nayandahalli ring road service road in Byatarayanapura traffic police limits on Tuesday.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR

No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-2/e-Tender/2024-25/ 3118, Dated: 12.11.2024

Short Term e-Tender Notification

1) Details of works : On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTPP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-2 and 3 Karnataka Public Works Department invited item Rate Tender under KPPP Portal in Two Cover System from Eligible Agency/Contractors for following works Under 2059 (Non-Plan) 1 (One) and 5054 Appendiix-E (Plan) 2 Two) Plan for the year 2024-25. Under Yadgir Sub-Division- (1)16317 (2059), (2)16696 and (3)16698 (5054 Appendiix-E) Total 3 (Three) works Tender Called **2) Amount Put to Tender :** Miminimum Rs 25.00 Lakhs and Maximum Rs.100.00 Lakhs **3) Contractor Eligible Details :** Civil Class-IV & Above **4) Tender Procesing Fee and EMD Details :** Tender Fee, EMD & Period as per kppp portal, **5) Last Date & Time for Tender queries/Clarification :** 20.11.2024 (Upto 17.30 hrs) **6) Last Date & Time for Reciept of the tender in e-KPPP portal :** 27.11.2024 (Upto 16.00 hrs) **7) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/Technical Bid :** 28.11.2024 (16.30 hrs Onwards) **8) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid :** 30.11.2024 (11.30 hrs Onwards) **9) For More Details Contact :** Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division : Yadgir. **10) Website Address :** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

NOTE: Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the kppp Portal only

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division:Yadgir.

DIP/YDG/282/KSMC&A/2024-25

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: B/SG/Proj/SBC-VSS
Dated: 08.11.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Video Surveillance (VSS) with Integrated Command Control Centre (ICCC) at KSR Bengaluru Station.	Rs. 5,73,39,382.45

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 02.12.2024
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/ Project/Bengaluru

PUB/561/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. 29 UBL 2024-25
Dated: 06.11.2024

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders (IREPS) for the following works:

Sl.No.	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 2,63,95,506.00

Sub Work-1: Castlerock - Improvements work to sewage pipeline storm water drain and approach road to Genetine Chawl and Gang Chawl. **Sub Work-1A:** Improvements work to sewage pipeline and storm water drain in gang chawl at Castlerock. **Sub Work-1B:** Improvements to road along with drain at Genetine Chawl and market road at Castlerock.

Sub Work-2: Sambre (wayside) - Provision of additional facilities at Sambre (SXB) goods shed (Provision of labour rooms with drinking water facility) at Sambre.

2	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 1,58,70,409.00

Proposed replacement of pipe bridge at Br.No. 33A at Km. 96/900 - 97/000 and Br.No. 41 at Km. 104/900 - 105/000 between Bagalkot (BGK) and Jadaramkunti (JRKT) stations by cut and cover RH Girder Method.

3	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 3,03,62,283.00

Supply of Ballast at Kotturu (KTY) Depot in Sr. Divisional Engineer / East / Hubballi Jurisdiction.

4	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 15,97,929.00

Supply of water can to Level Crossing gates and gang units under Assistant Divisional Engineer / Ballary (BAY) Section (Total 28 gang units and 38 LC gates) for a period of 12 Months.

5	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 20,37,323.00

Conducting fly levelling survey using Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and generation of Longitudinal Section in Alnawar - Miraj (LWR-MRJ) Section in Assistant Divisional Engineer / Belagavi Jurisdiction.

6	**Hubballi Division:**	Rs. 1,50,45,923.00

Proposed construction of Electrical sub Station at Gadag Road Hubballi.

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 05.12.2024
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination Hubballi

PUB/560/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi

No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-2/TENDER/2024-25/3803 DATE: 12/11/2024

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 6 works under head of account 8443-Deposit Contribution (Vivek Yojane) and 1 work under head of account 2059-PW Building Repairs/Maintenance, Totally 7 No. of works, amount put to tender is minimum of Rs. 20.83 Lakhs and maximum of Rs. 51.66 Lakhs.

Calendar of events:1)Last date for queries & clarifications : 20-11-2024 up to 5.30 PM, 2)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 22-11-2024 up to 5.00 PM, 3)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 25-11-2024 at 4.30 PM, 4)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids", 5)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from kppp.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Chikodi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1126/KSMCA/2024-25

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THE HINDU

Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation Ltd.
Nagarabhivruddi Bhavan, #22, 17th 'F' Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, 2nd Stage, Near BMTC Bus Depot, Bengaluru - 560038.
Ph: 91-80-25196124-129, Fax: 080-25196110
Email: info@kuidfc.com Website: www.kuidfc.com

No. KUIDFC/NKUSIP/UIB-GF/26/2024-25 **Date: 14.11.2024**

Office Space in Ground Floor Available for Rent

Sl.No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Location	KUIDFC, Nagarabhivruddi Bhavan, #22, 17th 'F' Cross, Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, 2nd Stage, Near BMTC Bus Depot, Bengaluru - 560038.
2.	Ground Floor	553.53 Sqm (WITHOUT provision of furniture, Lighting fixtures and AC)
3.	Rate	Rs. 966.59 per Sqm (Negotiable) per month (EXCLUDING GST, 4 wheeler and 2 wheeler Parking charges, Electrical supply charges, Water supply and UGD charges and Diesel charges for DG set) with 5% increment on every year.
4.	Advance Amount	10 months rent amount as an advance on rental agreement for the period of 3 years.
5.	Sealed Quotations must reach	On or before 29.11.2024 at 4.30 PM
6.	Contact Number for further queries:	Land line: 080-251961124 - 126 Mobile: 8105460947

DIPR/CP/AAA/3194/2024-25

Sd/- Managing Director
KUIDFC, Bengaluru

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Deputy General Manager-3, (BSWML), 1st Floor, UNI Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052

No. DGM-3/(BSWML)/TEND-06/Corr- 02/24-25 **Date: 13.11.2024**

CORRIGENDUM - 02

Sub: Extension of Calendar of Events for Tender Notification.

Ref: This office Tender Notification No: DGM-3/BSWML /TEND/06/24-25, Dated: 21.10.2024 and Corrigendum-1 No: DGM-3/(BSWML)/TEND-06/Corr-01/2024-25 dated: 30.10.2024

******

As per the above subject and reference, the calendar of events for the above tender notification is extended due to Administration and Technical reasons.

Time schedule /calendar of events:

Sl No	Description	As per tender notification/ Corrigendum	Extended dates to be read as
1	Last date of Submission of bids in KPP Portal	19.11.2024 before 16:00 hrs.	On 26.11.2024 before 16:00 hrs.
2	The Technical Bid Opening date in KPP Portal	20.11.2024 after 16:30 hrs.	On 27.11.2024 after 16:30 hrs.

For Further details visit GoK KPP portal Website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager-3
BSWML

DIPR/CP/3170/AKAR/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Mahadevapura Zone, Bengaluru.

No: SADH/MZ/TENDER/03/2024-25 **Date: 13-11-2024**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Mahadevapura Zone, (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP Rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies/ Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing Fencing / Chain Link Fencing to OHT Park in Ward No.101. **Tender Amount (in Rs.): 1,50,86,316.36/-, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 2,26,290/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 15-11-2024. 2)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting will be held **on 21-11-2024 at 11.30 AM. 3)** Last Date for Closing of Tender: **25-11-2024 at 4.30 PM. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **27-11-2024 at 4.30 PM. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Approval of Technical Bid.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture
Mahadevapura Zone, BBMP.

Karnataka Maritime Board
[Erstwhile: Infrastructure Development Department, Ports and Inland Water Transport Department]
Third Floor, West Entrance, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560001

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB), the Karnataka state nodal agency for implementation of port development, operation and functioning of Minor Ports in Karnataka, as part of its endeavor has decided to develop green field port at Pavinakurve, Karnataka and hereby invites **"Development of All Weather Deepwater Port at Pavinakurve in Karnataka under Public Private Partnership (PPP) Basis" (Indent No: IDD/2024-25/SE0029)**

The RFP document can be downloaded from e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **14.11.2024** onwards. The last date for submission of bids is **09.01.2025 till 16:00 Hrs.** Any further changes pertaining to the RFP will be uploaded in e-procurement platform only.

Contact Details: Chief Executive Officer, KMB, 3rd Floor, West Entrance, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru;
Phone: +91 080-29577444; & E-mail:ceokmb2019@gmail.com

Sd/-, Chief Executive Officer,
Karnataka Maritime Board

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/496/24-25 dt. 12.11.2024

India's tea, sugar exports raise sustainability concerns at home

Agricultural commodity production in India lives in a unique context — high domestic consumption and now rapidly growing exports — that may benefit producers and consumers; but increasing dependencies between different parts of the supply chain compromise ecological sustainability

Dasari Giridhar
Manan Bhan

Sweet and sour: Workers harvest sugar cane in Kolhapur district in Maharashtra. FILE PHOTO

India is one of the world's largest agricultural product exporters. Indian agricultural export was valued at $53.1 billion in 2022-23, up from $8.7 billion in 2004-05, a six-fold increase in less than two decades. For an economically developing economy like India, exports play a significant role in strengthening the economy by increasing revenue, foreign exchange, and transactional options. But the rapid surge in exports poses multiple challenges to sustainability of the production, processing, and distribution systems of the respective commodities.

In this context, it's important to answer two questions regarding the sustainability of an agricultural commodity.

First, when can an agricultural commodity be considered truly sustainable? The sustainability of such a commodity isn't just about economic sustainability, which is driven by productivity. Ecological and social factors, aided by good governance, help build a sustainable production system, so the sustainability of an agricultural system depends on three pillars: ecological factors, economic aspects, and social aspects, underpinned by robust policies underlying all of them.

Second, should sustainability considerations only apply to production? No. Since the lifecycle of a commodity extends across pre-sowing, on-farm production, and post-harvest stages, sustainability applies to them all. Tea and sugar, two prominent commodities in India with a large domestic and export-oriented consumption base, offer good examples to illustrate the problems herein.

Tea

India is the world's fourth-largest tea exporter and second-largest producer, contributing 10% of global exports. The latter totalled 188.76 million kg in 2022, with a value of $641.34 million, and an increase of 21.47% year on year in volume and 12.43% year on year in value. The total value of Indian tea exports for 2022-23 was $793.78 million. Domestic consumption constitutes 80% of total production. The top export destinations of Indian tea are the United Arab Emirates, Russia, Iran, the U.S. and the U.K.

There is also growing evidence of stresses being imposed on production systems across the tea value chain. Three major challenges in the tea industry are the management of human-wildlife interactions, burgeoning chemical use, and labour concerns. An estimated 70% of tea plantations are situated at the periphery of forests and host the migratory routes elephants need to move around, resulting in frequent interactions with humans and human property and damage.

Likewise, synthetic pesticides constitute up to 85% of total pesticide use in tea plantations. This degree of reliance on such pesticides increases the chemical residue in the final product. Researchers have already documented an increase in the incidence of DDT, Endosulfan 35 EC, Dicofol 18.5 EC, and Cypermethrin 10 EC in tea. Exposure to these substances can increase the risk of cancer, diabetes, impaired neurodevelopment in children, and neurotoxicity.

Finally, the labour rights and working conditions of the tea estates cannot be undermined. More than half of tea plantation workers are women and they are often underpaid. The working conditions are also hazardous and workers often lack protective gear. Despite regulations under the Plantations Labour Act 1951 (amended in 2010 to strengthen worker safety), safety standards are almost never fully enforced. There is a critical need for better management practices in and around tea estates in India, stricter monitoring of the maximum residue limits for pesticides, and better enforcement of existing labour regulations.

Sugar

India is the world's second-largest sugar producer, with 34 million metric tonnes of production, which is about a fifth of the global production. India's sugar exports grew by 291% from $1,177 million in FY 2013-14 to $4,600 million in FY 2021-22 and 64.90% in 2021-22. The country exported sugar to 121 countries, according to the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. About 50 million farmers depend on sugar cane cultivation in India. An additional half million depend on sugar and allied factories. According to NITI Aayog, the industry has an annual turnover of ₹1 lakh crore.

But for the exports' economic value and the industry's significant rural employment, it also has considerable adverse environmental effects – but in particular water resource management.

Sugar cane is well-known for requiring a lot of water to cultivate. On average, 1 kg of sugar requires between 1,500 and 2,000 kg of water. Sugar cane and paddy occupy around 25% of the gross cropped area in India and consume 60% of the country's total irrigation water, reducing the availability for other crops and also stressing groundwater resources. In the last six or seven years, the area under sugar cane cultivation has almost doubled in Karnataka and Maharashtra.

There needs to be more focus on addressing environmental issues and safeguarding the health and safety, of both workers and consumers, to develop an inclusive agrarian economy that benefits both local communities and global markets

Natural ecosystems like grasslands and savannahs in these states have also been converted to plant sugar cane. Along with the ensuing biodiversity loss, this change has increased the pressure on water resources and increased the need for sustainable water use and alternate cropping patterns. In fact, Implementing drip irrigation in these States could lower water consumption by 40-50%.

The social dynamics of sugar industries narrate another story. Media reports have unearthed poor working conditions, including long working hours.

Rising temperatures in peninsular India acts as a threat multiplier, increasing the risks to workers' physical and mental well-being. Workers trapped in vicious debt cycles incur even more stress. Strengthening regulations and encouraging structured and responsible production practices are important to reduce these effects and promote sustainability.

Millets

Even as the sustainability challenges of these commodities persist, there are others that promote long-term ecological and socio-economic sustainability, and their successes could serve as templates to address the problems plaguing tea and sugar.

One prime example is millets, a sustainable option with which to increase domestic consumption as well as exports. Millets are resilient to harsh conditions and don't require more inputs to weather resource constraints. They preserve soil health and ensure nutritional security.

The growing importance of millet export is evident in the export statistics. India reached a major milestone in 2021-22 when it exported millets valued at $62.95 million, up from $26.97 million in 2020-21, almost a 2.5-fold increase in a single year. In FY 2022-23, the country shipped 169,049.11 metric tonnes of millets and millet-related products worth $75.45 million. This rising demand highlights their potential as a sustainable agricultural commodity contributing to economic growth and environmental resilience.

Agricultural commodity production in India lives in a unique context: a large domestic consumption base and now a rapidly growing export base. These dynamics may benefit producers and consumers but they could also yield a paradox: whereby increasing dependencies between different actors in the supply chain compromise ecological and social sustainability concerns. There are successful tales of increasing production and trade volumes but concerns also continue regarding the trickling down of some of those economic benefits to producers and farm labourers, and regarding the vitality of India's natural resources.

There needs to be more focus on addressing environmental issues and safeguarding the health and safety of both workers and consumers to develop an inclusive agrarian economy that benefits both local communities and global markets.

Dasari Giridhar is a research associate (giridharaditya24@gmail.com) and Manan Bhan is a Fellow in Residence (manan.bhan@atree.org) – both at the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru.

Shrinking species: An African elephant with her calves in northern Kenya. FILE PHOTO

Alarming rate of decrease in African elephant count

Reuters

African elephants, earth's largest land animals, are remarkable mammals that are very intelligent and highly social. They also are in peril. Fresh evidence of this comes in a study that documents alarming population declines at numerous sites across the African continent over about a half century.

Researchers unveiled on Monday what they called the most comprehensive assessment of the status of the two African elephant species – the savannah elephant and forest elephant – using data on population surveys conducted at 475 sites in 37 countries from 1964 through 2016.

Savannah elephant populations fell by about 70% on average at the surveyed sites and forest elephant populations dropped by about 90% on average at the surveyed sites, with poaching and habitat loss the main drivers. All told, there was a 77% population decrease on average at the various surveyed sites spanning both species. Elephants vanished at some sites while their populations increased in other places thanks to conservation efforts.

"A lot of the lost populations won't come back, and many low-density populations face continued pressures. We likely will lose more populations going forward," said George Wittemyer, a Colorado State University professor of wildlife conservation who helped lead the study published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Savannah elephant populations fell by about 70% on average at the surveyed sites and forest elephant populations dropped by about 90% on average at the surveyed sites

The forest elephant population is estimated to be about a third that of savannah elephants. Poaching has affected forest elephants disproportionately and has ravaged populations of both species in northern and eastern Africa.

"We have lost a number of elephant populations across many countries, but the northern Sahel region of Africa - for example in Mali, Chad, and Nigeria - has been particularly hard hit. High pressure and limited protection have culminated in populations being extirpated," Wittemyer said. But in southern Africa, elephant populations rose at 42% of the surveyed sites. "We have seen real success in a number of places across Africa, but particularly in southern Africa, with strong growth in populations in Botswana, Zimbabwe and Namibia. For populations showing positive trends, we have had active stewardship and management by the governments or outside groups that have taken on a management role," Wittemyer said.

The study did not track a continent-wide population tally because the surveys used different methods over different time frames to estimate local elephant population density. Instead, it assessed population trends at each of the surveyed sites. A population estimate by conservationists conducted separately from this study put the two species combined at between 4,15,000 and 5,40,000 elephants as of 2016, the last year of the study period. It remains the most recent comprehensive continent-wide estimate.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

On Children's Day, here is a quiz about what it means to be a child...

Vasudevan Mukunth

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

QUESTION 1
The philosopher John Locke floated a theory called _____ ____. It held that at birth, the mind of a child was blank and that it was the duty of adults to populate it with the 'right' thoughts and ideas. Fill the blanks.

QUESTION 2
A common biological definition of childhood is that it's the period in a human's life between infancy and _____. Fill in the blank with the name of a period during which the body undergoes changes that render it capable of sexual reproduction.

QUESTION 3
In the early 19th century, child labour became a major issue in Europe owing to the growing dissonance between the practice and the depictions of childhood in art as a period of simple joys. One notable 'contributor' to the opposition movement was X, the British author whose stories described the lives of children living on the streets in awful detail. Name X.

QUESTION 4
India celebrates November 14 as Children's Day in honour of Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday. Name the social worker who pitched this date to the Indian government as a way to help improve the welfare of underprivileged children in the country.

QUESTION 5
Name the only UN member state that has signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child but hasn't ratified it, mainly because it detracts from certain conservative parenting and punitive practices.

Visual question: Name this painting from the late 18th century that came to be called the "commercial face of childhood" because of its popular depiction of innocence. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Answers to November 7 quiz:
1. Element that's the best conductor of heat and electricity – **Ans: Silver (Ag)**
2. Precious metal with the highest melting and boiling points – **Ans: Tungsten (W)**
3. Element whose mineral form has been used to prepare kohl – **Ans: Antimony (Sb)**
4. Stable element with the highest atomic number – **Ans: Lead (Pb)**
5. Common theme – **Ans: Their chemical symbols are not based on their common names**

Visual: **Tin**

First contact:
K.N. Viswanathan | Jose Joji | Rahul Nair | Namita Sahrawat | Pooja Kataria

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

नैनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः।
न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मारुतः ।।

- श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता 2.23

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indian tourist arrivals to Singapore hit a milestone

1 million. Indian visitor arrivals to Singapore surged past the one million mark in October, two months earlier than in 2023, marking a strong recovery in its tourism sector. Singapore's appeal to Indians travellers has been bolstered by strong connectivity and its diverse range of experiences. PTI

India-South Africa trade surpasses pre-pandemic figures

19 In $ billion. In 2024, India and South Africa celebrate the 30th anniversary of their diplomatic relations, marking three decades of deep-rooted historical ties. This year has also seen a significant achievement — bilateral trade between the two nations has surpassed pre-pandemic figures. PTI

Chief parliamentary secretaries' appointment quashed

6 The Himachal Pradesh High Court quashed the appointment of six chief parliamentary secretaries (CPSs) and declared the law under which the appointments were made as void. A division Bench of the High Court directed that all privileges of these CPSs be withdrawn with immediate effect. PTI

The number of cybertrucks recalled by Tesla in the U.S.

2,431 Tesla said it was recalling 2,431 cybertruck electric pickup trucks in the U.S. as loss of drive power could increase the risk of a crash, in its sixth such move this year. Last month, the EV maker said it would recall more than 27,000 cybertrucks in the U.S. REUTERS

Development banks' new financing pledge at COP29

120 In $ billion. COP29 negotiators welcomed a pledge by major development banks to lift funding to poor and middle-income countries struggling with global warming as an early boost to the two-week summit. REUTERS

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Why is there discontent in Maharashtra?

Despite the Maratha community's political dominance, significant sections of the population face economic challenges due to agricultural distress and lack of employment. This has led to calls for reservation which in turn has caused anxiety within OBC and SC groups

FULL CONTEXT

Sarthak Bagchi
Vignesh Karthik K.R.
Susmit Panzade
Pradip Kapse
Sumeet Gurli

In Maharashtra, the extensive network of cooperatives, particularly in the banking, sugar, and dairy sectors, has been instrumental in forging strong patronage linkages that have reinforced the Maratha community's dominant hold on State power. These cooperatives serve not only as economic entities but also as vital socio-political institutions that facilitate control over resources, employment, and local governance.

By controlling such cooperatives, Maratha politicians can extend patronage to farmers, workers, and local businesses, thereby securing loyalty and support. The cooperative model works well for both the farmers and the rural elite. Being part of a cooperative meant the farmer was assured of a minimum price for the procurement of his crop and had a guaranteed market at the time of sowing. Thus, he could borrow with ease, and the banks were also assured of repayments in good time. Moreover, cooperatives have provided a platform for Maratha leaders to ascend to significant political positions.

However, this patronage system has marginalised other communities by concentrating economic and political power within the Maratha elite. This concentration has led to disparities in resource allocation and access to opportunities for non-Maratha groups, reinforcing social hierarchy. It has also allowed Maratha leaders to negotiate and form alliances that favour their interests, often at the expense of broader inclusive development. The cooperative model has not only played an important role in continuing the long dominance of Congress in the State but has also been used by other political parties to expand their electoral base, either by setting up their own cooperatives, or by co-opting and incorporating existing cooperative leaders into their party fold, facilitating rampant party switching between such cooperative doyens.

Fragmented arena: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi being felicitated during the release of Mahavikas Aghadi (MVA) guarantees for the Maharashtra Assembly elections, in Mumbai on November 6. ANI

Reservations and dynasty politics

Despite the Maratha community's political dominance, significant sections of the population face economic challenges due to agricultural distress and lack of employment. This economic hardship has led to increased unemployment and financial instability within the community, fuelling discontent and a sense of marginalisation.

The demand for reservations in education and government employment has become a central issue for the Marathas. Feeling excluded from the benefits afforded to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Maratha youth have organised large-scale protests and agitations seeking inclusion in the reservation system. In 2016, the State witnessed several huge demonstrations known as Maratha 'mook morchas'. Although these 'mook morchas' claimed to be apolitical in nature, with political parties kept out and managed only by social organisations, the impact of these marches was felt in the political realm with leaders like Manoj Jarange-Patil emerging to advocate for Maratha reservations. This demand for reservation is expected to have adverse effects for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the region.

Factionalism and infighting within the Maratha community have also emerged as significant aspects of its politics. Internal divisions based on sub-regional loyalties, personal rivalries, and differing political affiliations have fragmented the community's unified political stance. This fragmentation weakens the collective bargaining power of the Marathas and complicates efforts to address common issues. Dynasty politics is another concern, with political leadership often concentrated within a few influential families. The perception that political power is inherited rather than earned contributed to the feeling of disillusionment among younger and less privileged Marathas.

The present elections in Maharashtra has one of the highest orders of nepotism ever played in the State. For example, in Nandurbar district, there are four constituencies, all reserved for STs. Dynasty politics reigns supreme in this belt, with all power alternating between two families at the central and State level. The Padavi and Gavit families have their members contesting from all four seats, with some of the remaining members of the family contesting on independent tickets. This is a long-term failure on behalf of the State and democracy at large. In most of the reserved constituencies, politics has failed to develop a new, decentralised class of leadership. Most of the communities, irrespective of their strength in the State population, have not had political representation in the past six to seven decades. For example, Lingayats, a numerically small caste like Malis, who have been actively assertive in recent times have not had significant representatives from the community.

The BJP's role in mobilising OBCs

The BJP has played a strategic role in counter-mobilising OBCs against the Maratha community's demands for reservation in Maharashtra. Recognising the potential to expand its electoral base, the BJP has actively engaged with various OBC groups to consolidate support and position itself as a defender of their interests, which was made clear from the speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his initial election campaign in the State for the 2024 Assembly elections.

The Maratha demand for inclusion in the OBC category has raised concerns among existing OBC communities about the dilution of their reservation benefits. The BJP has capitalised on this anxiety by aligning with prominent OBC leaders and supporting their opposition to Maratha inclusion in the OBC quota.

The BJP's growth in Maharashtra through OBC mobilisation involves a combination of caste-based strategies and welfare policies aimed at addressing OBC concerns. The party has advocated for sub-categorisation within the OBCs to ensure equitable distribution of reservation benefits, further solidifying its support among marginalised sub-groups. The party has strategically fielded candidates from various OBC subgroups, such as the Malis, Dhangars, Vanjaris, and others, to resonate with these communities. The late Gopinath Munde, a prominent BJP leader from the Vanjari caste, was instrumental in mobilising OBC support, establishing the party's foothold in Marathwada. The BJP's role in counter-mobilising OBCs against Maratha reservation demands has been a calculated political strategy that has contributed to its growth in Maharashtra.

Dalit politics in the State

Dalit politics in Maharashtra has been a significant force, shaped by historical movements and contemporary leaders advocating for the rights and empowerment of Dalit communities. Social and political consciousness among the Dalit communities has long been influenced by a history of social reformers in the State, from Jyotirao Phule and B.R. Ambedkar to Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj, who implemented one of the first policies of affirmative action through reservations in the early twentieth century. The key players in Dalit politics include parties like the Republican Party of India's (RPI) factions and the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) and influential leaders such as Ramdas Athawale and Prakash Ambedkar.

Dalit politics in Maharashtra is not a unified category. For example, the BJP and the undivided Shiv Sena had successfully consolidated Hindu castes like Matangs, Chambhars, and Khatiks among the SCs. In comparison, Dalit voters, particularly from the Mahar community who have converted to Buddhism (Navayana Buddhists), have historically supported the Congress due to its association with social justice policies. However, the fragmentation of Dalit parties and alliances with major parties like the BJP and Congress have led to the dilution of a unified Dalit vote bank.

At present, the VBA, led by Prakash Ambedkar, grandson of B.R. Ambedkar, hopes to emerge as a force to reckon with for Bahujan politics in Maharashtra. Although the VBA's performance improved in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections when they contested the polls in alliance with the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), their electoral presence has not been significant. In the 2024 elections to the Lok Sabha, SC voters rallied behind the INDIA bloc over the issue of *samvidhaan bachao* (save the Constitution), and the VBA played third fiddle, gaining only a fraction of votes. Since then, they have adapted their strategy from trying to consolidate SC, OBC, and Muslim votes to now exclusively focusing on Buddhist and Muslim votes. Additionally, the symbolism of Ambedkar is not lost in Maharashtra politics. Even Rahul Gandhi started his campaign for the Maharashtra Assembly elections with a copy of the Constitution in his hand, from the Dikshabhoomi in Nagpur, where Ambedkar had converted to Buddhism along with lakhs of his followers.

The RPI, originally founded by B.R. Ambedkar, has fragmented into several factions over the years. The two more prominent factions are RPI(A) Athawale faction and RPI(G) Gawai faction. Ramdas Athawale leads the RPI(A), which has always sided with the ruling party for engagement with power at the centre, whether it is the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) or the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance.

In Maharashtra, sub-classification of SCs has become a contentious issue. It is being used by the Mahayuti NDA bloc to further consolidate Hindu SCs, while the Congress is silent on the sub-classification debate. So far, only the VBA has vehemently opposed the sub-classification bill.

Key issues of electoral significance in Dalit mobilisation include the fight against caste-based discrimination, demand for land rights, access to education and employment opportunities etc. The assertion of Dalit pride, inspired by Ambedkarite ideology, remains central to their political engagement.

Sarthak Bagchi teaches at Ahmedabad University; Vignesh Karthik KR is a postdoctoral research fellow at KITLV-Leiden; Susmit Panzade, Pradip Kapse, and Sumeet Gurli are researchers based in Maharashtra. This is the second article in a two-part series on Maharashtra politics.

THE GIST

- The extensive network of cooperatives, particularly in the banking, sugar, and dairy sectors, has been instrumental in forging strong patronage linkages that have reinforced the Maratha community's dominant hold on State power.
- The BJP has played a strategic role in counter-mobilising OBCs against the Maratha community's demands for reservation in Maharashtra. Recognising the potential to expand its electoral base, the BJP has actively engaged with various OBC groups to consolidate support and position itself as a defender of their interests.
- Dalit politics in Maharashtra has been a significant force, shaped by historical movements and contemporary leaders advocating for the rights and empowerment of Dalit communities.

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

No. 16 C-1, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560052. Phone: 080-22268677/78/79 Fax: 080-22268667
Email: kerc-ka@nic.in Website: https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in

No: KERC/SC(F)/RPO/2024/931 Date: 12.11.2024

NOTICE

Sub: Draft KERC (Procurement of Energy from Renewable Sources) (Eleventh Amendment) Regulations 2024 - inviting comments and suggestions - reg.

The draft of "KERC (Procurement of Energy from Renewable Sources) (Eleventh Amendment) Regulations 2024" has been published by the Commission in the State Gazette on 04.11.2024 for inviting comments and suggestions from the interested persons and other stakeholders. The above draft Regulations are available on the Commission's website **https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in** also.

Stakeholders and interested persons are requested to submit their suggestions / comments / views if any, on the Draft Regulations to the undersigned **on or before 27.11.2024.**

Sd/- Secretary
DIPR/CP/3195/2024-25 For Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission

ನಂದಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ

Office of District Hospital Camp office, Chickaballapura-562101, E-mail: cimschikkaballapura@gmail.com, ಫೋನ್ ಮತ್ತು ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 08156–2723

No: NMCRI/E-TENDER/LAPTAB/16/2024-25

Date: 12.11.2024

Tender Notification

Sealed e-tenders are invited by interested eligible firms in accordance with KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for Procurement of Laptops & Tablets for SCP/TSP Students at Nandi Medical College & Research Institute, Chikkaballapura.

Tenders may be submitted after viewing details regarding tender form, EMD and Terms & Conditions etc. at Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/.** DD for Rs. 5,000/- towards tender processing fee (Non-refundable) shall be submitted in favour of The Director Cum Dean, NMCRI, Chikkaballapura and acknowledgment thereof shall be enclosed along withe-tender. For further details please contact **e-mail: cimschikkaballapura@gmail.com.**

(1) Date of Downloading Tender Documents is from: **12.11.2024. (2)** Last date and time for Uploading of **Tenders:19.11.2024 upto 5.30 PM. (3)** Date of Opening Technical **Tenders: 21.11.2024 at 10.30 AM.**

Sd/- Director Cum Dean, Nandi Medical College & Research Institute, Chikkaballapur
DIPR/CHIKKABALLAPURA/RO:270/KSMCA/2024-25

BEFORE THE HON'BLE XXVIII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL UNIT, AT BANGALORE (CCH-29)
P and SC No. 25050/2024

BETWEEN:

1. MR. KISHEN HARENDRA
Son of K Harendra Nath, Aged about 35 years,
Residing at, # 28,Narayana Pillay Street, Shivaji Nagar,
Bangalore – 560 001 ...PETITIONER NO. 1

2. MS. LEKHYA KISHEN
Daughter of Kishen Harendra, Aged about 6 years,
Residing at, # 28, Narayana Pillay Street, Shivaji Nagar,
Bangalore – 560 001 Represented by,
Mr. Kishen Harendra ...PETITIONER NO. 2

3. MS. LARIKA KISHEN
Daughter of Kishen Harendra, Aged about 2 years,
Residing at, # 28, Narayana Pillay Street, Shivaji Nagar,
Bangalore – 560 001 Represented by,
Mr. Kishen Harendra ...PETITIONER NO. 3

AND:
NIL ...RESPONDENT

NOTICE

WHEREAS the above named Petitioners have made a Petition before the Hon'ble XXVIII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, Mayo Hall Unit, at Bangalore, (CCH - 29) under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 for grant of Succession Certificate in respect of deceased Late Malini Venkatachala Setty, who died on 20.01.2023. The Court has fixed the date for hearing on 03.12.2024, at 11:00 A.M., in the forenoon If any persons have any claim/interest against the said Succession Certificate, they may enter appearance either in person or through their counsel and file objections before the Hon'ble XXVIII Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, Mayo Hall Unit, at Bangalore, on the said date, failing which the matter will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

SL. NO.	PARTICULARS	ACCOUNT NO.
1.	Saving Bank account with Canara Bank, Shivamogga, SR Road Branch	5236101000071

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this day the 7th of November, 2024, at Bangalore.

Advocate for the Petitioner
Anusha Ganesan
M04-05, Shree Complex
St. Johns Road Bangalore - 560042

BY THE ORDER OF THE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
CITY CIVIL COURT

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, GOKUL Kumar.R, R/a No.7/1, 3rd Cross, Babureddy Layout, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, R.T.Nagar post, Bangalore-32 have changed my name to Mohammed vide affidavit dt: 13.11.2024 sworn before Notary C.V.Earappa, B'lore

I, Jackson Vijayakumar Joshua S/o Vijayakumar B Joseph R/o 431, 1st Floor, 6th Main West, Amarjyothi Layout, Domlur, Bangalore - 560071 have changed my name to Jackson V Joshua for all purposes.

I, PADMANABHAN Ratnaachari, Residing at No.87/106, MP Nivas Muneshwara Temple Road, Bengaluru-560047, have changed my name to Padmanabhan C R, vide affidavit dated: 13.11.2024 before Notary M. Rajendra, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

RENUKADEVI, of Indian Nationality holding Passport Number:R2435667 Dated:24/04/2017 is announcing her willingness to changing her name to Renukadevi Pujari. Whoever has an objections to this, kindly contact the General Directorate of Passports within 15 days from the date of its announcement in the newspaper.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MOHAMMED Azimulla Mohammed Ziyaulla, S/O: Mohmmed Ziyaulla, R/O: No 30, Railway Men Layout, Nr Monarch Serenity Aprts, Thanisandra, Blr–560077, Have Changed My Name As Mohammed Azimulla Mohammed Vide Afdvt Dtd 12/11/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

NAGESH Rajendra, of Indian Nationality holding Passport Number:R2435663 Dated:24/04/2017 is announcing his willingness to changing his name to Nagesh Pujari. Whoever has an objections to this, kindly contact the General Directorate of Passports within 15 days from the date of its announcement in the newspaper.

SRIRAM, of Indian Nationality holding Passport Number:T8950099 Dated:22/07/2020 is announcing his willingness to changing her name to Sriram Pujari. Whoever has an objections to this, kindly contact the General Directorate of Passports within 15 days from the date of its announcement in the newspaper.

VAIBHAVI, of Indian Nationality holding Passport Number:T8950101 Dated:22/07/2020 is announcing her willingness to changing her name to Vaibhavi Pujari. Whoever has an objections to this, kindly contact the General Directorate of Passports within 15 days from the date of its announcement in the newspaper.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division(West), Joint Commissioner (West) Office Premises, 2nd Floor, Sampige Road, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020.

No: EE/P-W/TEND/11/2024-25 Date: 13.11.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System)(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Project (West) Division, BBMP, Bengaluru, invites short term Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD/ KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organisations for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing Jacketing to Fire Hydrant System Sumps of K.R. Market in Ward No.157. (Old-139) **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 21.30 Lakhs. **EMD:** Rs.50,000/-. **Category:** Others. **Class for Eligible Contractor:** As per E-Procurement Portal. **Period of Completion:** 02 Months.

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-portal from **15.11.2024 from 3.00 p.m. onwards.** (2) Last date for receipt of tenders: **26.11.2024 upto 3.00 p.m.** (3) Technical Bid open : **27.11.2024 at 3.00 p.m.** 4) Financial Bid open if possible : **28.11.2024 at 3.00 p.m.**

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit KPP portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project (West), BBMP

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone), 9th Cross, 9th Main, Jayanagara, 2nd Block, Bengaluru -11

No: SADH(S)TENDER/21/2024-25 Dated: 13.11.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) **(STD KW-4)**

(Rates Excluding GST)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only) The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl No.	Name of the works
1.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Basvanagudi Assembly Constituency Parks **Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹.1,13,46,103/- EMD: ₹.2,00,000/-**
2.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Chikkapete Assembly Constituency Parks **Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹.1,10,87,550/- EMD: ₹.2,00,000/-**

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Date of Notification is **13.11.2024. (2)** Tender can be downloaded from **15.11.2024. (3)** Pre bid meeting on **16.11.2024** at **4:00** pm. **(4)** Tender Closing date **25.11.2024** at **4:00** pm. **(5)** Technical bid opening date is **26.11.2024** at **4:30** pm. **(6)** Financially Bid Opening Date After approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone)

GVK Power (Goindwal Sahib) Limited

Regd. Office: Plot No. 10, Paigah Colony, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad-500003, Telangana, India CIN:U40109TG1997PLC028483
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Guru Amar Das Thermal Power Limited, GATPL)
(A step down wholly owned subsidiary of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, PSPCL)

Dept-HOD, Mechanical Maintenance Department, O&M, GATP, Goindwal Sahib, invites E-Tender for the work of:

1	**Tender Enquiry No. 001**/GATP/MECH/50007092 dated 11/11/2024 'Services of Condition Monitoring for all rotation Equipment installed at 2X270 MW Guru Amardas Thermal Plant (GATP), Goindwal Sahib, Distt.: Tarn Taran, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications for a period of one year,

For detailed NIT & Tender specifications, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 11/11/2024 from 17:00 Hrs onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GATP 01/24 76155/12/3631/2023/38976

KARNATAKA SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

(Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
"Kaushalya Bhavan" 3rd Floor, Near Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru 560029,
Phone: 080-29522222 E-mail: skilldev.2017@gmail.com

No. KSDC/CMKKY/Skillsummit/CR-138/24-25 Date : 13.11.2024

Expression of Interest (EOI)

KSDC invites "Request For Proposal" (RFP) from interested and having experienced event management agency / organization to conduct "Karnataka Skill Summit 2025" on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. Last date for submission of proposal is dtd.27.11.2024 at 17.30 Hrs. Interested, experienced and eligible agency / organization may submit their proposals in the KPP Portal. For details please contact KPPP Helpline No.: 080-46010000 or for or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

Sd/-
Executive Director-2
KSDC, Bengaluru.
DIPR/DDU/3180/AKAR/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Chief Commissioner, Annexe Building-1, N.R. Square, Bangalore-560002

FORM III

No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/2302/2024-25 Date: 13.11.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section 14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act,1961 the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for Formation of 30.00mts wide road from Panathur Main Road to BBMP Limits via Bhoganahalli, Doddakannenahalli for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan-2015 for the width of 30.00mtrs.

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued

Name of the District: Bengaluru Urban. Name of the Taluk : Bengaluru East. Name of the Village: Bhoganahalli Village

Sy. No. Khatha No.	Type of land		Nature of land			Dimension of the land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.M		Boundaries of the land/Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/ Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, factory, Apartment, Individual House etc.)	Market (guide lines) value of the land per Sq.M (in Rs.)	Name and address of the owner of the plot/Land for which DRC is to be issued
	Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted Undeveloped	Approved layout / developed land Building site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.M	Type of Construction and No. of floors	Floor Area Ratio			
Sy No.141/4 Khatha Sl No.3264	Vacant land		Converted A Khatha Land			187.73		Sy No.141/1	Sy No.141/2	Remaining Portion of Sy No.141/4	Sy No.140	None	None	None	Vacant	50,000/-	M/s.Shreshta Apartments Private Limited., Registered Office at No.10, Vittal Mallya Road, Bangalore-560001, Represented by his SPA Holder Sri.Chikkaswamy ST S/o Late Thimmegowda

Note: Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ನಅಇ 137 ಎಂಎನ್‌ಯು 2024(ಇ), ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ:09.09.2024.

Objections and suggestions may be submitted at the address specified below :

Name of address of the Divisional/ Sub Divisional / Branch Office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No: 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bangalore-560002.

Sd/- Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that our Client intends to enter into a transaction with the owners of the lands mentioned in the schedule below and hereinafter referred to as the Schedule Property.

The Owners have represented that they are the only true and absolute owners in peaceful possession of the Schedule Property with unrestricted right of alienation.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that if any person/s, entity, Company, firm or institution has or asserts any right, title or interest by way of sale, lease, licence, tenancy, mortgage, charge, lien, easement, pending litigation, claim, demand or any other interest of whatsoever nature in or upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all the documentary support of their such rights **within 10 days** from the date of this notice failing which our Client shall presume and deem that the Owners have clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and none else has any right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule Property. Our Client shall be at liberty to proceed with the intended transaction.

Claims and objections received after 10 days shall not be entertained or binding on our Client.

All that piece and parcel of the lands converted for residential use as mentioned in the table below **situated in Maragondanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.**

Sl.No	Survey No.	Extent	Name of the owner/s	East By	West By	North By	South By
1.	44/6 (old Sy.No. 44/2)	1 Acre 27.08 Guntas	1.Smt.Bujjamma 2.Chalamala Prabhavathi 3.Mittameeda Kalpana 4.Gangavarpu Madhusudhan Reddy 5.G. Sudhir	Sy Nos. 44/3 & 44/5	Remaining land in Sy No. 44/2	Road	Sy No. 45/1
2.	44/4 (old Sy.No. 44/3)	0 Acre 21.04 Guntas	Smt.Bujjamma	Sy No. 43/1	Sy No. 44/3	Road	Sy No. 44/5
3.	43/1	2 Acres 10 Guntas	Smt.Bujjamma	Sy No. 43/2	Sy No. 44/4 & 44/5	Road	Sy No. 45/2
4.	43/2	2 Acres 9 Guntas	Smt.Bujjamma	Sy No. 42/3 & 42/5	Sy No. 43/1	Road	Sy No. 45/2
5.	44/5 (old Sy.No. 44/3)	01 Acre 2.08 Guntas	Smt.Bujjamma	Sy No. 43/1	Sy No. 44/6	Sy No. 44/3 & 44/4	Sy No.45/1 & 45/2
6.	45/1	1 Acres 23 Guntas	G. Sudhir	Sy No. 45/2	Remaining land in Sy No. 45/1	Sy Nos. 44/6 & 44/5	Land in Sy Nos. 54, 55 & 56
7.	45/2	2 Acres 9½ Guntas	G. Sudhir	Sy No.42/5	Sy No. 45/1	Sy Nos. 43 /1 & 43/2	Sy Nos. 46, 49, 50 & 51
8.	42/5 (old Sy.No. 42/1 then 42/3)	1 Acre 18 Guntas	G. Sudhir	Sy No. 42/2	Sy Nos. 45/2 & 43/2	Sy No.42/3 & 42/4	Sy No. 41

G. V. Balasubramanya, Advocate
Unit No. 105, Prestige Centre Point,
Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560 052.

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 13.11.2024

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites tenders in Two Stage System from eligible tenderers for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount put to tender EMD
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(WWM-W)/ACE(WWM-N-W)/DCE(WWM-E&W)/TA-2/1036/2024-25		Date: 13.11.2024
1.	Work of providing and laying of 500mm dia DWC SN-8 class Pipe line Shanimahatma Temple, Mahadeshwara main road to Baldwin School, Lakshmannagar, Herohalli, Bangalore **(2nd Call).**	Rs. 179.42 Lakhs Rs. 2.69 Lakhs
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(WWM-W)/ACE(WWM-N-W)/DCE(WWM-E&W)/TA-2/1038/2024-25		Date: 13.11.2024
2.	Work of providing and laying of 600mm dia DWC SN-8/RCC NP-3 class sewer pipe line from MP Sports club road to 5th cross Railway Layout, Jnanaganganagar, Bangalore **(2nd Call).**	Rs. 151.44 Lakhs Rs. 2.27 Lakhs
IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(WWM-W)/ACE(WWM-N-W)/DCE(WWM-E&W)/TA-2/1040/2024-25		Date: 13.11.2024
3.	Work of providing and laying of 700mm dia RCC/DWC sewer Pipe line from Raastra Kavi Kuvempu Park to Akshaya Studio Backside, D-group layout, Annapoorneshwarinagar, Bangalore **(2nd Call).**	Rs. 108.07 Lakhs Rs. 1.62 Lakhs

For above works, the last date for submission of completed tender documents is on: **28.11.2024 upto 17:30Hrs.** The Tenders will be opened on: **30.11.2024 at 11:00Hrs**.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer(WWM-West).

Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-East), 5th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(WWM-E)/DCE(WWM-E&W)/TA-1/850/2024-25		Date: 13.11.2024
4.	Work of Providing and Laying 300mm & 600mm dia RCC NP-3 class sewer pipeline at ST BED Koramangala 1st Block surrounding area and linking 900mm RCC NP-3 class sewer pipeline coming under AEE(WWM-N-K&T)-1 valley Sub-division works.	Rs. 133.99 Lakhs Rs. 2.00 Lakhs

For above works, the last date for submission of completed tender documents is on: **28.11.2024 upto 17:30Hrs.** The Tenders will be opened on: **30.11.2024 at 16:00Hrs**.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer(WWM-East).

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the abovesigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/RA/3178/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA WORKS DEPARTMENT
TENDER CALL NOTICE E-mail: rbcirclekhurda@gmail.com

Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle-15/2024-25 Memo No – 2186 Dt. 07.11.2024

The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road works as detailed in the table below:

1. Nature of Work : Road Works
2. No of Work : 4Nos
3. Tender Cost : Rs.10000.00 (On-Line)
4. Class of Contractor : B, A & Special Class
5. Available of Bid document in : From 10.00 AM of Dt.16.11.2024 up to 05.00 PM
   of the Website : Dt.02.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM
6. Date of opening of Bid : Dt 03.12.2024 at 11.30 AM
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website: **https://tenderodisha.gov.in .** Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Construction Engineer,
Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha
B-600 OIPR -34127/11/0018/2425

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

TENDER ADVERTISEMENT
NIT No: CMRL/CON/PHASE-II/CORR-3/CP11B-C3-E&M-02
E-procurement Tender-Funding Agency – JICA
International Competitive Bidding

CMRL invites online tender through e-procurement bids under the Tender No: PHASE-II/CORR-3/CP11B-C3-E&M-02

"SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, FIRE PROTECTION AND VAC WORKS FOR 9 UNDERGROUND STATIONS AND 10 ELEVATED STATIONS FROM RK SALAI STATION TO SHOLINGANALLUR STATION INCLUDING BORED TUNNEL & VIADUCT BETWEEN THE STATIONS, CUT & COVER TUNNEL, U SECTION AND ELEVATED RAMP (CH. 17250.000 to CH. 35437.030) FOR CORRIDOR-3 OF CHENNAI METRO RAIL PROJECT PHASE II."

Tender documents can be downloaded from E-procurement websites.
For further details, please visit e-procurement website.
http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
www.chennaimetrorail.org

DIPR/ 4918 /TENDER/2024

Director
(Systems and Operations)

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders with two cover system are invited from the eligible bidders for the Processing of Uniform Cloth under Supply of Uniform Scheme A.Y. 2025-26

S. No	Cloth Variety	Shade	Required Quantity to be processed (in Lakh Metres)	Required Earnest Money Deposit in (Rs.)	Date and time of availability of Bid Document in the web portal	Last date and time for receipt of online submission of filled Bid Documents	Date and time of online opening of Bids		Supply Period
							Technical Bids	Financial Bids	
1.	Polycot Drill	Green	45.76	10,00,000/-	14.11.2024 to 29.11.2024 Upto 02.00 p.m	29.11.2024 Upto 02.00 p.m	29.11.2024 at 03.00 p.m	Will be intimated later	130 days
		Sandal	76.02						
		Total	**121.78**						
2.	Polycot Casement	Green	2.49						
		Sandal	64.67						
		Total	**67.16**						
3.	Polycot Checked Shirting	Green	94.45						
		Sandal	95.64						
		Total	**190.09**						
Grand Total			**379.03**						

Eligibility of the Tenderer and other conditions are stipulated in the Bid Document.
1. Complete E-Tender Documents can be viewed and downloaded **free of cost** from Government tender website **https://tntenders.gov.in**
2. **E-Tender Documents :** Tender Schedule – III - Processing of Uniform Cloth (S.No.2025-26/U-Process/003)
3. The Bidders have to participate through online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class III.

Pre-bid Meeting: There will be a pre-bid meeting **on 21.11.2024 at 03.00 p.m.** at the Conference Hall of the Directorate of Handlooms, Chennai-104.

Contact : Joint Director (Uniforms)
Telephone : 044-25358715, E-mail ID : tenderwing2024@gmail.com

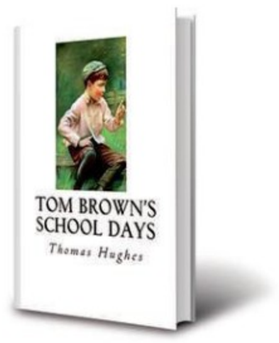
DIPR/4852/Tender/2024

Joint Director (Uniforms)/
Tender Inviting Authority

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Enid Blyton
Fairy Stories
Pictures by Sally Holmes
THE FAMOUS FIVE
Five Go to Billycock Hill
Five On Finniston Farm
THE MYSTERY OF TALLY-HO COTTAGE
Three Cheers, Secret Seven
THE MYSTERY OF THE STRANGE MESSAGES
Five Go Dirt to Camp
THE MYSTERY OF BANSHEE TOWERS
Fun for the Secret Seven
THE NAUGHTIEST GIRL AGA
Five Go Adventuring Again
Good old Secret Seven

FILE PHOTO



Covering many acres: the oral and written tradition of tales for children

Why reading children's books by authors as varied as Lewis Carroll, Rudyard Kipling, A.A. Milne, Beatrix Potter, Enid Blyton, J.K. Rowling and Philip Pullman will help adults, in the words of Katherine Rundell, 'see the world with double eyes: your own, and those of your childhood self'

Sanjay Sipahimalani

Visit the children's section of your local bookstore, and chances are that you'll come across works by those familiar from the world of entertainment. Among the celebrities who have clambered onto this bandwagon recently are Kiera Knightley and Trevor Noah, joining the ranks of others like Madonna, Jimmy Fallon, and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex.

Whether they write such books to entertain a younger generation or simply leverage their fame is another question. Most vanish without a trace: you won't find many children curled up with *Gus & Me* by Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards, for example. Perhaps what motivates them is that the best books we read when young shape our hearts and minds, planting seeds of imagination, empathy, and wonder.

Rich possibilities

Martin Amis took a contrary stance. He once remarked that whenever he was asked if he'd write a children's book, he would reply, "If I had a serious brain injury, I might well write one". Sam Leith finds this view uncharacteristically foolish. In his *The Haunted Wood* (Simon&Schuster), he emphasises that what we read in childhood endures, and children's literature offers imaginative possibilities as rich as those found in books for grown-ups.

Leith's survey of the children's canon is largely focused on writing from Britain. This is not due to post-Brexit chauvinism, but because "we do have a distinct tradition... rooted in a specifically British cultural and literary and social history".

He also mentions British literature's "outsized impact on the world," which readers in India can certainly attest to (leaving aside for now the nature and legacy of that impact). Many in the subcontinent will come across beloved writers in these pages, including Lewis Carroll, Richmal Crompton, C.S. Lewis, Roald Dahl, and, of course, Enid Blyton.

Rooted in the times

The Haunted Wood covers many acres, from the oral tradition of tales for children to the latter-day impact of J.K. Rowling and Philip Pullman. Notably, Leith shows how children's literature, like other forms of art, doesn't emerge from a vacuum. He puts the classics into context, tracing how writers for children responded to their times.

Initially, there were myths, fairy stories, and folklore, but no separate children's genre. Later, abridged versions of works such as Robinson Crusoe and Gulliver's Travels could be read without "attending to Jonathan Swift's political satire or Daniel Defoe's theology and economics".

Universal education led to a recognition of children's unique qualities, such as a love of play. It was only in the 18th century, Leith finds, that the idea gained a foothold that children should enjoy what they read rather than being given moral instruction. These worldviews continue to "tangle in the genre".

In the Victorian age came books such as Thomas Hughes's hearty *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, renewing the boarding school story. Soon, along with Beatrix Potter's animal tales, those growing up in the privileged heart of empire were treated to accounts of adventure on the high seas, the African jungle or the Argentinian pampas, "while at the same time affirming the glories of that history and making clear who were the heroes and who the villains in the making of it".

Edwardian England brought about a "double movement between self-confidence and anxiety". Shadows of this fell upon the work of Kipling, including his books for younger readers such as Kim. As Leith points out, both Kim and Mowgli inhabit two worlds, which was Kipling's own experience "as a son of the Raj".

Realistic portraits

In time, writers started to portray children not as they wanted them to be, but as they actually were. Edith Nesbit, for one, had the "extraordinary ability to remember what it was like to exist as a child". Despite fantastical elements, the children in her books such *The Railway Children* are realistic in "their squabbling, messy, unworldly ways".

With the world wars, traditional ways of life splintered, giving rise to stories that "embed childhood in a history from which it must have felt like it had come unmoored". The conservatism of Enid Blyton's works, with racist and xenophobic aspects, did little to dampen her popularity, and not just in England. Leith astutely notes that she consciously adapted adult genres: the *Famous Five* stories were thrillers, and the *Secret Seven* and *Find-Outers* series were golden-age crime capers.

Diversity, to an extent, arrived with the break-up of the British Empire and non-white immigration. Malorie Blackman's *Noughts & Crosses*, for example, created a parallel version of Britain in which power relations between black and white people were reversed. The 21st century canon remains inchoate, despite the "unignorable effect" of Rowling and Pullman, while the Young Adult genre continues to blur the lines between children's and adult literature.

The Haunted Wood contains many other treasures. It explores how works for children influenced each other over the ages: Kipling's *Puck of Pook's Hill* laid the groundwork for the enchanted lands of Alan Garner and Susan Cooper, for example, and A. A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh* series is a descendant of Carroll's Alice books. Leith further touches upon aspects such as the vanilla nature of sanitised Disney versions, and how authors overcame tragedies in their personal lives to create vivid, immersive worlds.

The best children's books, Katherine Rundell has argued in a striking simile, are like literary vodka: they distill emotions like hope, joy and fear in their "purest, most archetypal forms". Leith's *The Haunted Wood* is an intoxicating tour of this literary liquor cabinet. It's also a reminder, to quote Rundell again, that reading such books as adults is to "see the world with double eyes: your own, and those of your childhood self."

Sanjay Sipahimalani is a Mumbai-based writer.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
Upendran

"If only I had caught the bus, I would have been able to see him."

"Well, that's the way the cookie crumbles."

"What?"

"Do you know what a cookie is?"

"Of course, I do. Americans call biscuits 'cookies', don't they?"

"That's right. And 'That's the way the cookie crumbles' is an American expression meaning 'that's life'."

"That's life!"

"Yes, that's right. It's another way of saying that such things happen and there's nothing you can do about them. That's the way life is. Hey, where are you going?"

"Home. I have a chemistry test tomorrow."

"Before you go, would you mind calling the airport and finding out when the flight from Bombay is expected?"

"Yes."

"Some friend you are. Where is the telephone directory?"

"Hey, why are you so angry? I said I'd ring up, didn't I?"

"No, you didn't. You said you wouldn't ring up."

"What are you talking about? You asked me if I'd mind ringing up the airport and I answered 'yes', meaning, 'yes, I'll ring up the airport'."

"But that's not what 'yes' means in that sentence. In fact the meaning is just the opposite. It means that you do mind ringing up the airport."

"In other words, I don't want to ring up the airport."

"That's right and ..."

"Wait a minute. Let's not get into an argument. What I wanted to say was I didn't mind ringing up the airport. So.."

"When I asked, 'would you mind ringing up the airport?' you should have said 'no'. This would have meant 'No, I don't mind ringing up the airport'."

"O.K. I think I've understood. Would you mind passing the telephone directory?"

"Not at all. Here you are."

"Thank you. You know, there are times when I wish I was like you."

"Is that a compliment or a joke?"

"Neither. I was just testing you. See, just because I praised you a little, you didn't even notice the mistake I made."

"Mistake? What mistake?"

"I said, 'I wish I was like you'. Shouldn't it have been 'I wish I were like you'?"

"Both are acceptable in speech."

"But I thought ..."

"There was a time when people felt that 'I wish I were' was the only correct form. But nowadays both are o.k. in speech."

"But not in writing?"

"In formal writing, the standard form is still preferred by many."

"And the standard form is 'I wish I were', right?"

"That's right. Now, please make that telephone call."

"Your wish is my command, master!"

Published in The Hindu on January 18, 1994.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of the country, was born on November 14. A quiz on the first leader of free India

Venkataraghavan. S

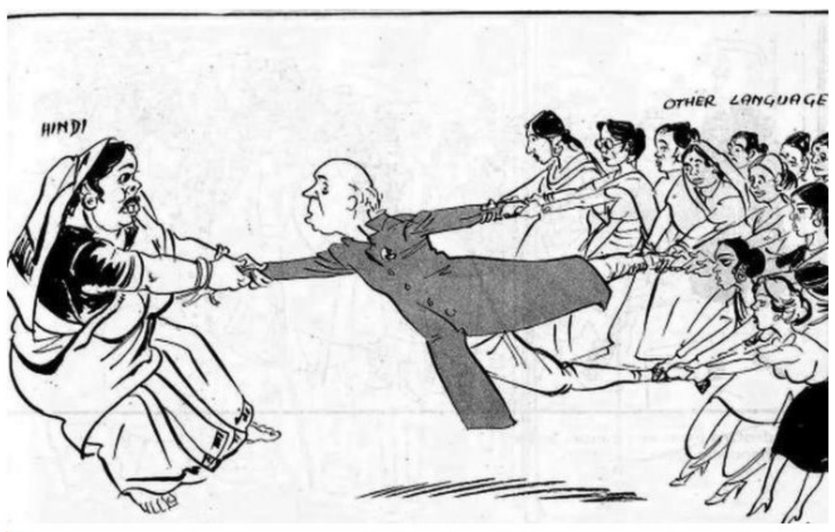
QUESTION 1
Where and under what circumstances did Jawaharlal Nehru write *The Discovery of India*?

QUESTION 2
In which iconic Indian television series was *The Discovery of India* adapted, and who directed it?

QUESTION 3
Thirty letters that Nehru wrote to Indira Gandhi from prison was later published as a book. Name the book.

QUESTION 4
What is the name of the newspaper Nehru started?

QUESTION 5
How do we now know India's oldest student organisation which was founded on August 12, 1936 at a conference in Lucknow that was inaugurated by Nehru and presided over by Jinnah?
It elected Prem Narayan Bhargav as its first secretary.



Visual question:
Identify the cartoonist of this sketch. Nehru famously said to this cartoonist "'Don't spare me!" THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The environmental agreement which acts as a framework for COPs. **Ans: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**
2. This international treaty was adopted in Japan in 1997. **Ans: Kyoto Protocol**
3. This is where the first UN Climate Change Conference was held in 1995. **Ans: Berlin**
4. In 2001, negotiators wrapped up the work on the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. The name of this complete package of decisions. **Ans: Marrakech Accords**
5. This fund for climate finance has an objective to assist developing countries with climate change adaptation and mitigation activities. **Ans: Green Climate Fund**
Visual: This image signifies the ratification of this proposal. **Ans: Paris Agreement, signed in 2015. The agreement reaffirms the goal of limiting global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Tamal Biswas| Piyali Tuli| Dodo Jayaditya| Andrew Kap Lian Gualnam

Word of the day

Scrumptious:
extremely pleasing to the sense of taste

Synonyms: delectable, delicious, luscious, pleasant-tasting, yummy

Usage: *Homemade cakes are absolutely scrumptious.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/scrumptiouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈskʌm(p)ʃəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

FIR against Puneeth Kerehalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Chamarajpet police have registered an FIR against Hindutva activist Puneeth Kerehalli for allegedly using abusive words against Housing and Waqf Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan, threatening him with dire consequences.

Based on the complaint, the police charged Puneeth under Section 299 (Deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on Wednesday.

Social media post

Puneeth had put out a post on social media abusing Mr. Khan, who had earlier made derogatory remarks against the skin colour of Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy. The accused, a resident of J.P. Nagar, has over 10 criminal cases in the city and different parts of the State.

HC pulls up officials over delay in removing encroachments along Vrishabhavati basin

The court gives authorities time till November 22 for demonstrating concrete action on removal of encroachments

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court on Wednesday criticised the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner's office for delaying the removal of encroachments on basins of Vrishabhavati tributaries and linked lakes despite repeated court orders. The court observed that both agencies were "sitting tight and hoodwinking the court."

The Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice K.V. Aravind, warned officials of contempt proceedings if they fail to show tangible progress in complying with the court's directives. The court was hearing public interest litigations seeking the restoration and rejuvenation of the Vrishabhavati river.

A file photo of the Vrishabhavati in Bengaluru.

"It is unfortunate that both BBMP and the DC have remained openly lethargic towards removal of encroachments ... In the last four months neither the DC nor the BBMP acted for removal for encroachments," the Bench observed.

There was a clear direction from the court to the BBMP to remove encroachments.

However, an affidavit filed by the BBMP and its chief engineer in July 2024 indicates that they were delaying the action. The Bench said, "the entire approach and the tenor of the affidavit is one of passing of buck by stating that he is awaiting an order of the DC for removal of encroachments."

Pointing out that the court had long ago issued directives to the BBMP and the DC to devise a plan for removing encroachments, the Bench said the DC has had not responded to the court's order at all.

The court gave authorities time till November 22 for demonstrating concrete action for removal of the encroachments.

Action against apartment for connecting sanitary line to Cauvery pipeline

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The illegal connection came to light after residents reported damage to properties on Tuesday night

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has initiated action against the owner of the Royal Bliss Apartment in Hegde Nagar, Thanisandra, for illegally connecting the apartment's sanitary line to the Cauvery V Stage water supply pipeline.

"This misuse of public resources for personal benefit is unacceptable," said BWSSB Chairman Ram Prasath Manohar. He directed officials to file a criminal case and a civil suit to recover losses incurred by the board. He also urged an accelerated crackdown on unauthorised sewage connections citywide, warning that violators would face criminal charges.

The illegal connection came to light after residents reported damage to properties on Tuesday night. This followed a sudden surge from the Cauvery pipeline. "Investigations revealed that the owner of the Royal Bliss Apartment had unlawfully linked the sanitary line to the Cauvery pipeline, concealing the connection with concrete," a BWSSB statement said.

The pipeline, designed to handle high pressure of up to 12 kg per square centimetre, burst under the strain, causing extensive damage and wasting a significant volume of clean drinking water transported from 160 km away, the board said.

"The damaged pipeline has since been cleaned, disinfected, and is ready to be handed over to the management department for water to be served to 110 villages," it further said.

JD(S) workers stage protest against Zameer

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Taking objection to the "racist slur" made by Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan against Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy during a campaign rally recently, Janata Dal (Secular) workers staged a protest here on Wednesday and burnt in effigy the former, besides seeking his dismissal from the Cabinet.

Slogans and placards

The workers raised slogans and held placards condemning Mr. Khan calling Mr. Kuamraswamy "Kalia" (black). They urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to dismiss him from the Cabinet.

They also said they would complain to the Governor if action is not taken against the Minister. The police detained some JD(S) workers when they tried to lay siege to Mr. Khan's residence.

Minister discusses solutions to traffic bottleneck on Bengaluru's airport road

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to tackle severe traffic congestion on Bengaluru Airport Road, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda convened a detailed meeting on Wednesday (November 13) with officials from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and local traffic police.

According to a statement from the Minister, discussions focused on vital infrastructure upgrades aimed at improving traffic flow along the key airport corridor.

One of the proposals involves widening the stretch near the military land.

A file photo of the traffic congestion on Ballari Road that leads to Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru.

NHAI will also construct a service road from the Hebbal flyover to the military land area. "Additionally, the Hebbal stormwater drain bridge will be widened to handle increased traffic volumes, and upgraded bus bays will allow more buses to stop at the Military Farm bus stop," the statement said. To address bottlenecks near Jakkur Aerodrome, a service road will be extended from the Yelahanka signal to Jakkur junction. The Minister also highlighted plans for a dedicated highway entry and exit near the Coffee Day outlet on both sides of the Yelahanka bypass. The feasibility of adding access points at Palanahalli, between Yelahanka and Bagalur Cross, will be evaluated.

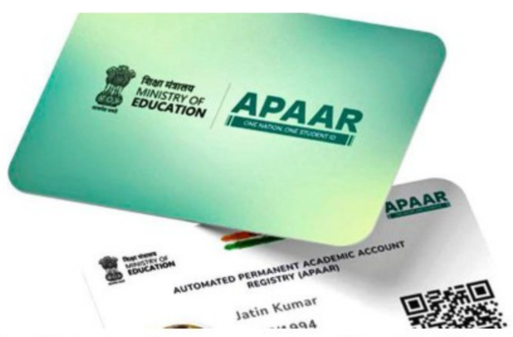
"The possibility of introducing U-turns at strategic points under the NH elevated road is under review, along with a proposed flyover at Sadahalli junction," Gowda added.

For a long-term solution, the Minister suggested constructing underpasses at Kodigehalli, Byatarayanapura, and Jakkur junctions to ease congestion for daily commuters.

State starts roll-out of APAAR ID for schoolchildren

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has initiated the issuance of 12-digit Automatic Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) unique identity cards, modeled after Aadhaar, for all government, aided, and private school students in the State.



The ID is designed to serve as a unique, lifelong identifier under the 'One Nation, One Student ID' initiative.

However, the move has sparked criticism from educationists, who argue that the State's adoption of APAAR contradicts its stance against the National Education Policy (NEP) and its commitment to implementing a State Education Policy (SEP). Critics also questioned the need for the new ID, given that students in the State are already assigned Student Achievement Tracking System (SATS) IDs. The Union Ministry of Education has said that the APAAR ID is a critical component of the NEP and the National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCqF).

Lifelong identifier

The ID is designed to serve as a unique, lifelong identifier under the "One Nation, One Student ID" initiative, ensuring uniformity across educational and administrative systems. According to the Ministry, it will facilitate seamless transitions between schools, States, and institutions.

Additionally, the APAAR ID will integrate with the DigiLocker ecosystem, enabling secure storage of academic records, exam results, holistic report cards, and extracurricular achievements.

It will also be utilised for entrance exams conducted by the National Testing Agency, admissions, scholarships, government benefits, and awards for students and educators.

Parental consent is mandatory for APAAR registration.

Following the Union government's directive, the DSEL has instructed schools to convene parent meetings to secure consent. The registration process, linking parents' Aadhaar, EPIC, and driving licence numbers, is already underway in government, aided, and unaided schools.

Development educationist Niranjanaradhya V.P. criticised the move, stating, "The federal government is using all means to gain control over school education, despite education being on the concurrent list." He said Karnataka's existing SATS system, which is being upgraded to version 2.0, is sufficient.

"The imposition of APAAR ID raises concerns about student privacy and infringes on constitutional rights," he added.

Free health check-up camp

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Pratidhee Foundation will organise Swasta Karnataka 2024, a health check-up camp, on November 15 and 16 at Princess Shrine, Gate No. 9, Palace Grounds, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Email president@pratidheefoundation.com

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, NOV. 14	
RISE 06:18	SET 17:50
RISE 16:28	SET 04:25
FRIDAY, NOV. 15	
RISE 06:18	SET 17:50
RISE 17:18	SET 05:27
SATURDAY, NOV. 16	
RISE 06:19	SET 17:50
RISE 18:13	SET 06:31

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	25
Mysuru	30	21
Bengaluru	27	21

Bengaluru Today
25°C Day will be pleasant. Night also will be pleasant. One or two spells of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
25°C The weather will be pleasant. Few spells of light to moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS– TWO COVER –ITEM WAR TENDER SYSTEM (E-Submission)

IFB No.	16 / F. **EMFM** / DO II/ CW /2024/Dt.12.11.2024
Funding Pattern	JJM
Eligibility	Registered Class I Contractors (Civil)
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai – 625 007
Downloading Period	**21.11.2024 to 21.12.2024** up to 15.00 hours
EMD Payable	Online Mode through E-Tendering website **"https://tntenders.gov.in"**
Pre Bid meeting	**02.12.2024** at 12.00 hours at the TWAD Board, Head office, Chennai
Bid Submission	**21.12.2024** before 15.00 hours duly Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website **"https://tntenders.gov.in"**
Bid opening	**23.12.2024** at 15.30 hours through E-Tender Portal

Name of work	Appx. value (including 18% GST)	Bid security
Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of IoT based Electro Magnetic Flow Meters (EMF Meters) and System Integration for 97 Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Schemes under TWAD Board (Implementation Period: 15 Months, Trial Run Period:3 Months and Paid Maintenance Period: 5 Years)	Rs. 173.00 Crore	Rs. 86.50 Lakh

DIPR / 4924 / TENDER / 2024
SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS
Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. HE-14-2024-25
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders (IREPS) for the following works:

SL	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	Outsourcing of Non-core activity for cleaning of batteries, light fittings, fans, switches, sockets, exhaust fans etc, for Non-AC, ICF & LHB coaches at Train Lighting Maintenance Depots over Hubballi Division for two years.	Rs. 77,12,626/-
2	Provision of new HT 11 KV electric connection for Mechanized Laundry sub station, Hubballi (RR No. HT-428) as a second source.	Rs. 10,64,493/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 09-12-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
PUB/563/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Hubballi
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. SWR/W/TS/USFD/2024/04/E Dated: 07-11-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	Ultrasonic Testing of Rails in Mysuru Division of South Western Railway as per the Indian Railway's "USFD Manual & Specifications for Ultrasonic Testing of Rails and Welds" with latest correction slips & related instructions for a period of 12 months.	Rs. 46,49,500/-
2	Ultrasonic Testing of AT Welds in Mysuru Division of South Western Railway as per the Indian Railway's "USFD Manual & Specifications for Ultrasonic Testing of Rails and Welds" with latest correction slips & related instructions for a period of 12 months.	Rs. 8,87,744/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 06-12-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Track Procurement/HQ
PUB/564/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Hubballi
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Open Tender Notice No. BE-29-2024-25-OT-24 (Through E-Tendering)
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Automatic power factor correction panels at major substations of Bengaluru Division, Electrical arrangements for- **(1)** Proposed Major up gradation/modernization of infrastructure at Nidvanda goods shed, **(2)** ReConstruction of Type II quarters in lieu of Qtrs No.24/A&B, 25/A&B (4 units) at Channapatna **(3)** Proposed FOB at Nidaghatta (NZH) Halt Station connecting Platform No.1 & Platform No.2 and **(4)** Improvements to 1st entry, Facade, shelter and other allied works at Bengaluru	Rs. 1,24,60,521/-

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 29-11-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
PUB/565/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 Bengaluru
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). Email: insurance.fo@tnpl.co.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Subject Matter	Due date
2024-25/ TNPL/UNIT-I/ RSPS#2/ INS/ Refloat	Fixing of Insurer(s) for the arrangement of Storage-Cum-Erection insurance policy for the upcoming Revamping of Steam & Power System (RSPS#2) at TNPL Unit-I, Kagithapuram, Karur (Dt). Quotes are invited from General Insurance Companes/ Authorized Brokers/Authorized Agents-licenced by IRDAI. TNPL will follow two bid system.	On or before **22.11.2024** before 11.00 a.m.

Terms & conditions and sum insured details are available in tender documents which can be downloaded from **www.tnpl.com/ https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/4921/Tender/2024 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. Bharat B.R son of Mr. Rajanna B.M,** residing at No.54, Boyalahalli, Bengaluru-562149 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. He has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 16-09-2002, registered as document No. BNG (U) YLNK/5413/2002-2003, registered in the office Sub-registrar, Yelahanka and Original Sale Deed dated 18-07-2012, registered as document No.JAL-1-01697-2012-13, stored in CD No.JALD139, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Gandhinagar (Jala) Bangalore, pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on 13-11-2024 vide Lost Report No. 1332777/2024. I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being Residential Vacant **Site No.175,** BBMP Katha No.3314/211/140/141/142/143/175, Assessment Nos. 140, 141, 142 and 143, situated at **Palanahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Previously Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring East to West (66+68.5)/2 feet and North to South 40-0 feet in all measuring **2690 square feet** and bounded on as follows;
East by : Road; West by : Private Property; North by : Site No.174; South by : Site No.176;
KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020.
Contact : 9740718436 / 9620461486

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, DELHI.
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING,
PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI – 110001.
Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Bank and Financial Institutions Act 1993 read with rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rule 1993) in the matter of

TA NO. 2063/2022 **DATE: 12.07.2024**

INDIAN RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVEL. AGENCY LTD.
..... **APPLICANT**
VERSUS
M/S MANALI SUGARS LTD. & ORS. ..... **RESPONDENT**

To,
DEFENDANT
D1. M/S MANALI SUGARS LTD. (BORROWER/MORTGAGOR) 30/31 STADIUM COMPLEX STATION ROAD BIJAPUR KARNATAKA-586104
D2. SHRI SHIVAGOUDA T. PATIL (GUARANTOR) S/O SHRI TAMMANAGONDA R/O YADAHALLI TALUKA BILAGI DISTT. BAGALKOT KARNATAKA-587116
D3. SHRI MOHANGOUDA R. PATIL (GUARANTOR) S/O SHRI RAMANAGOUDA R/O HULAKOTI, TALUKA & DISTT. GADAG KARNATAKA -582101
D4. SHRI VEERENDRA S. PATIL S/O SHRI SHIVANGOUDA R/O 195/6A, SIR DESPANDE COLONY DAULATKOAT ROAD BIJAPUR DISTT. KARNATAKA
D5. SHRI ZAFAR IQBAL AZIZ (LEGAL HEIR OF LATE KHAJA ABDUL AZIZ GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR) S/O SHRI LATE KHAJA ABDUL AZIZ R/O PLOT NO. 2829 SECT.- 12 M.M. EXTENSION BELGAUM KARNATAKA-590001
D6. SMT. SAJIDA BEGAUM S/O SHRI LATE KHAJA ABDUL AZIZ R/O PLOT NO. 2829 SECT.- 12 M.M. EXTENSION BELGAUM KARNATAKA-590001

Whereas the above-named applicant(s) has/have instituted a case for recovery of **Rs. 39,05,26,339/- (RUPEE THIRTY NINE CRORE FIVE LAKH TWENTY SIX THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY NINE ONLY)** AGAINST YOU AND WHERE AS IT HAS BEEN SHOWN TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **20.11.2024 At 10.30 A.M.**

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before the mentioned, the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

All the matters will be taken up through video Conferencing or physical and for that purpose: -

(I) All the Advocates/Litigants shall download the **"Cisco Webex"** application/ software;
(II) **"Meeting ID"** and **Password** for the date of hearing qua cases to be taken by Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar shall be displayed in the daily cause list itself at DRT Official Portal i.e. drt.gov.in
(III) In any exigency qua that the Advocate/Litigants can contact the concerned official at Ph. No. 23748478.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this the 12th day of July, 2024

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL,
Sd/-
SECTION OFFICER
DRT-II, DELHI.

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From Page One

Byelections pass off peacefully

Voters standing in queue to cast their votes at a polling booth in Channapatna on Wednesday. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

They held the Channapatna, Shiggaon, and Sandur Assembly seats, respectively.

Key contestants include Nikhil Kumaraswamy, son of Mr. Kumaraswamy, who is contesting on an NDA ticket, and five-time MLA C.P Yogeshwar from the Congress for the Channapatna Assembly seat. While BJP's Bharath Bommai, son of Mr. Basavaraj Bommai, is contesting against Yasir Ahmed Khan of the Congress in Shiggaon, E. Annapurna, wife of Congress leader Mr. E Tukaram, is contesting against BJP's Bangaru Hanumantha in Sandur.

Migrants return in droves to Channapatna to vote

Many electors across the constituency spoke freely about 'high amounts' paid by two parties, besides transportation charges, in this intensely fought poll battle

Exercising their franchise: Voters standing in a queue at a polling station in Channapatna town, and (right) Lambani women showing their inked finger at Shusheela Nagar in the Sandur Assembly constituency, on Wednesday. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH AND SRIDHAR KAVALI

Sharath S. Srivatsa
CHANNAPATNA

We return to our village during every election. This one is no exception, though stakes are high this time," said Ravi Chakkere, a resident of Rajarajeshwarinagar in Bengaluru. For him, an election is not just about casting his vote but also about catching up with his childhood friends.

An electrician by profession, Mr. Chakkere was among the many who had returned to Chakkere village in the Channapatna Assembly constituency in time for polling on Wednesday.

Votes keenly mapped

Congress candidate C.P. Yogeshwar, who is locked in a see-saw battle with NDA candidate Nikhil Kumaraswamy, hails from Chakkere. The constituency, which recorded 85.86% polling in the 2023 Assembly elections reported a high 88.8% voter turnout, which is likely to go up further marginally when the final tally is announced by the Election Commission. A higher turnout had been expected considering how intensely fought this election has been. Outstation voters were being mapped eagerly by both parties to bring them back for voting.

According to a JD(S) worker, who was outside the government school where two polling booths had been established, of the about 2,000 voters at Chakkere, about 180, who have migrated out for a livelihood, mostly to Bengaluru, had returned to vote.

Raghuram G. and his aunt (who did not wish to give her name) had returned to Koorangere village from Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh. Though originally from Anantapur, they had migrated to Koorangere four decades ago to work for liquor baron late Dasappa before arrack was banned. They have continued to have their votes in the Channapatna constituency.

Over the last few months, Channapatna saw intense political work, which reached a crescendo in the last fortnight. With every vote counting, it had become crucial for strategists to bring voters residing outside back to their villages. Across the constituency, multiple people spoke with no hesitation with *The Hindu* about a "very high amount" that had been paid to voters by both parties, wooing them for their crucial votes.

'No party above board'

"Why will people not come back to vote when every voter is being paid ₹3,500 by both sides? They have also paid the bus charge. This is the case across the constituency," said a Congress worker in the fort area of Channapatna. A similar sentiment was echoed by a farmer in his 60s who is a JD(S) worker. "Apart from cash, silverware such as anklets, ear hangings, and cups have been given. I have never seen such a splurge in an election. No party is above board. Despite all this, you will never know how the votes are cast," he said.

Work at mines and *jatra* impact polling pattern in Sandur

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI/HUBBALLI

Though the polling station was open by 7 a.m. as scheduled at Siddapur village in Sandur constituency, people did not turn up to cast their vote for the first three hours as they were busy attending a *jatra*. After completing the rituals and pooja by 10 a.m., they came in big numbers to vote.

The polling stations at Krishna Nagar, Chapparadahalli in Sandur town, and Toranagal saw a heavy rush after 4 p.m., as mining workers thronged the booths after completing their morning shift. Police personnel allowed all the voters who arrived on the polling station premises before 6 p.m. to cast their vote. Polling staff issued tokens to the voters who arrived before 6 p.m. at these booths and allowed them to vote.

Newly-wed couple Girish and Pushpa, after completing rituals, visited a polling station at Kudatini village and voted.

Some boycott

Meanwhile, despite attempts by the authorities to convince them, some families residing at Dandinpet in Savanur boycotted polling in Shiggaon in protest against not being given the record of occupancy rights to them.

The residents said they have been residing at Dandinpet for the last 70 years. However, instead of giving them the record of occupancy rights, the Revenue Department had given the land to Anjuman E Islam and so they had decided against voting.

The residents belong to both Hindu and Muslim communities and have erected a banner of boycotting the election citing the reason for their decision.

UBI's plea to transfer Valmiki corpn. case to CBI dismissed

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The provisions of the Banking Regulations (BR) Act, 1949, will not give teeth to any bank to choose the investigating agency to probe the criminal case registered in a particular State and being investigated by the agencies of the State, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

"If any banking institution is permitted to seek transfer of investigation of criminal cases registered by State agencies to the hands of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) based Section 35A of the BR Act, it would amount to giving Section 35A the powers that the statute itself does not confer," the court has observed.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while dismissing a petition filed by Union Bank of India (UBI) seeking transfer to the CBI the criminal case, registered and investigated by the State police, into the multi-crore financial misappropriation case at the State-run Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd.

The UBI had registered a complaint with the CBI as per Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) circular, which mandates that bank fraud cases where the fraud amount exceeds ₹50 crore, has to be probed by the CBI.

It was argued on behalf of the UBI that since officials of the bank were involved in Valmiki corporation case, even the criminal case registered in Karnataka and probed by the State police would have to be transferred to the CBI along with bank's complaint as per the RBI's circular issued under Section 35A of the BR Act.

The State police have already filed a chargesheet, in which no officials of the bank have been arraigned as accused even though

some were named in the first information report.

If banks were permitted to seek transfer of a crime case registered in a State to the CBI under Section 34 of the BR Act, it would also render the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act redundant, as existence of the CBI is under the DSPE Act, and it could intervene in any State only in terms of the DSPE Act or when such investigations were handed over to the CBI by the apex court or the High Courts, Mr. Justice Nagaprasanna observed.

"When the Ministers or high functionaries who are involved in particular allegations and those allegations are being investigated into, such investigations must be entrusted to independent agencies, agencies which are not under the control of the State government and it is only then it would instil public confidence in the investigation or provide credibility to such investigation. But that cannot be on an interpretation of Section 35A of the BR the Act as is projected by the Attorney-General" on behalf of the bank, the court said.

CBI can continue probe

However, the court made it clear that dismissal of the UBI's petition "would not mean that the CBI, which is investigating into the crime registered by the bank against its officials, could not draw those persons into the web of proceedings, even if they were dropped by the State's police or any other person accused in the crime, but that could happen only in accordance with law."

MUDA 'scam': Kumar Naik, CM's PA questioned by ED

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) questioned three persons, including a personal assistant (PA) to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, in connection with the alleged Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) scam on Wednesday.

Congress MP for Raichur G. Kumar Naik, who served as Deputy Commissioner of Mysuru earlier, C.T. Kumar, a private PA to Mr. Siddaramaiah, and former MUDA Commissioner G.T. Dinesh Kumar were questioned at the ED office here on Wednesday for several hours. Their statements were recorded in the case. The ED had earlier raided Mr. Dinesh Kumar's residence. He was not there at his house during the raid. But he appeared before the agency for questioning last week. He was questioned again on Wednesday.

Signed by PA

Sources said the PA to Mr. Siddaramaiah was called in for questioning as the application by the Chief Minister's wife, Parvathi, to MUDA, applying for a khata to be made in her name for the 14 alternative sites allotted to her, was signed by him. The allotment of these 14 sites by MUDA in lieu of 3.16 acres of land, that was allegedly developed by MUDA without an acquisition process, is the bone of contention in the case. Mr. Naik, was the Deputy Commissioner of Mysuru district and approved the alienation of the said 3.16 acres of land for non-agricultural purposes in 2005 in his capacity as the DC.

Illegal export of iron ore: HC suspends sentence, grants bail to Satish Sail, five others

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

High Court directs all the convicted individuals to deposit, within six weeks, 25% of the fine imposed by the special court on them

Satish Krishna Sail

The High Court of Karnataka on Wednesday suspended the sentence imposed on Karwar MLA Satish Krishna Sail and other convicts and granted them bail in the six separate cases of illegal export of seized iron ore from Belekeri port in Karwar during 2009-10 in which they were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment of seven years by the special court in each of these cases.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the interim order on separate petitions filed by Mr. Sail and other five individuals of the total six convicted persons, and seven companies, including Shree Mallikarjuna Shipping Pvt. Ltd. (SMSPL) of which Mr. Sail is the managing director. The SMSPL and Mr. Sail were convicted in all six cases as they were found guilty of exporting seized iron ore by purchasing it from six other companies.

Deposit 25% of fine

The High Court directed all the convicted individuals to deposit, within six weeks from Wednesday, 25% of the fine imposed by the special court on them as one of the conditions during the pendency of consideration of their appeals against their conviction and imprisonment.

Earlier, P. Prasanna Kumar, Special Public Prosecutor for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which had probed the cases on the Supreme Court's directions, said Mr. Sail is facing a total of 42 years of imprisonment as the special court has not merged the imprisonment of seven years imposed in each of the six cases.

However, Senior Advocate C.V. Nagesh, who appeared for Mr. Sail and his company, said the trial court had erred in imposing the imprisonment of up to seven years under certain provisions of the Indian Penal Code while also pointing out that the special court had failed to quantify the fine amount on each of the convicts. He pointed out that all the convicts were on bail during the pendency of the trial.

'Order vague'

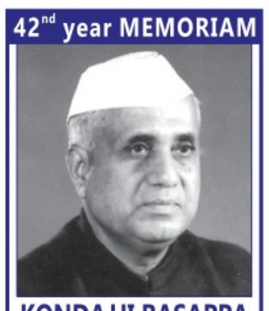
Meanwhile, the High Court also orally observed that the order of the special court imposing the sentence and the fine was vague as it had not quantified the fine as the special court had merely said that the accused persons would jointly and severally pay the fine imposed.

Mr. Justice Nagaprasanna, before whom the appeals had come up for hearing, had adjourned the appeals till Wednesday to hear the arguments on their plea seeking interim order of suspension of sentence and grant of bail.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

REMEMBRANCE

42nd year MEMORIAM



KONDAJJI BASAPPA
GONE HOME: 14-11-1982
Former Union and State Govt. Minister and Former State Chief Commissioner Bharat Scouts and Guides Karnataka.

"On This Day We Pay Our Humble Tributes & Offer Our Salutations for Your Selfless and Principled Life"

Kondajji Shanmukhappa & Brothers
Daughter & Son-in-Law
Daughters-in-Law
Grand Children and
Kondajji Balaga.

Kondajji Basappa Sarvamangalamma Memorial Trust, Bengaluru.

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

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No: BBMP/C.Comm/PSR(G)/2305/2024-25 FORM - III (See Sub-rule (3) of rule-3) Date: 13-11-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of powers conferred under section **14-B of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act 1961** the following 'Area' mentioned in the schedule below is required by **The Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for Formation of 30.00 mts wide Road from Panathur Main Road to BBMP Limits via Bhoganahalli, Doddakannenahalli for implementing the proposals of the Approved Master Plan 2015 for the width of 30.00 Mtrs.**

The following land / building owners have opted for Development Rights in lieu of monetary compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The Development Rights will be given by the Authority as twice the land area surrendered and two times the building area surrendered and as estimated by the value of the building area surrendered (valuated as per PWD norms) divided by the market value of the land on which the building is constructed.

The public is hereby informed about the details of the land and land owners and interested persons whose lands are required for the public purpose and Development Right Certificate (DRCs) are to be issued in lieu of monetary compensation. Any objections and suggestions are to be addressed to the Special Land Acquisition Officer, O/o the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition and TDR) Head Office, BBMP within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notification.

List of Land / Building area surrendered and land owners for which DRC is to be issued.

Name of the District: **Bengaluru Urban** Name of the Taluk: **Bengaluru East** Name of the Village: **Bhoganahalli**

Sl. No.	Sy.No/ Khatha No.	Type of Land		Nature of Land			Dimension of the Land/ Plot & Extent in Sq.m		Boundaries of the Land / Plot				Building Details			Present Activity on Land/Building (Specify Specific activity such as Shop, Office, Factory, Apartment, Individual House etc.,	Market (guide -lines) value of the land Per Sq.m	Name and address of the owner of the Plot/Land for which DRC is to be issued
		Vacant	Built up	Agriculture	Converted undeveloped	Approved Layout / Developed Land Building Site	Dimension	Extent	North	South	East	West	Extent in Sq.m	Type of Construction and No. of Floors	Floor Area Ratio			
1	Sy. No: 2/5 Khata Sl. No: 3263	Vacant Land		Converted Land			641.23 Sqm		Sy. No: 2/2	Sy. No: 141/1	Remaining portion of Sy. No: 2/5	Road	None	None	None	Vacant	50,000/- per Sqm	M/s. Shreshta Apartments Pvt. Ltd., Represented by its Director Sri B.M. Karunesh, Having its registered Office at No. 2/4, Langford Gardens, Richmond Town, Bengaluru - 560025.

Note: Market guideline value of this property is considered subject to conditions of payment of fee as per Government Order No: ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ನಅಇ 137 ಎಂಎನ್‌ಯು 2024 (ಇ), ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.09.2024

Objections and suggestions made be submitted at the address specified below:

Name and address of the Divisional / Sub Divisional / Branch Office	Deputy Commissioner, Land Acquisition & TDR, 2nd Floor, Room No. 208, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560002.

Sd/-
Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Helping children identify birds in their environment the digital way

Every flashcard of *What's That Bird?* features an image of a bird with its name, and other fun facts to help children spot and identify birds

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Garima Bhatia believes that when children engage with these cards, they begin to recognise and learn about different bird species beyond just their names. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

To mark Children's Day, which falls on November 14, Early Bird, a learning programme to bring children closer to birds and nature, will launch a digital version of its popular flashcard game *What's That Bird?*

The original physical flashcards, a tool to help children recognise and learn about 40 common Indian birds, was the first product created by Early Bird back in 2016, says Garima Bhatia, Programme Manager of Early Bird, a project of the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF). "The flashcards were designed by Thoughtshop Foundation, a Kolkata-based design group and are now available in four languages – English, Hindi, Tamil, and Kannada," she explains.

Familiarisation

Every flashcard of *What's That Bird?* features an image of a bird with its name, key information such as its diet and habitat, and other fun facts to help children spot and identify birds in their natural surroundings. "We wanted to familiarise children and adults with the common birds that are seen in India in the form of an attractive and educational game that would appeal across age groups," she says

Bhatia believes that *What's That Bird?* will appeal to children of different age groups. And that they will relate to the flashcards in different ways depending on their age. While younger children will be attracted to the arresting photos and learn to recognise the birds on the cards, slightly older children can also enjoy playing several fun games that come with the set. "These games are suitable even for adults who are new to birds," says Bhatia, who also uses these flashcards during nature walks to point out features of the birds seen during the walk. "They are meant for anyone wanting to learn about not just the identification of Indian birds, but also their behaviour and habits, and fun facts about them," she says.

Digital version

The digital version "retains the edutainment richness of the original flashcards while offering interactive features that make learning about birds even more fun and accessible," states a release from Early Bird. It is now a more user-friendly, visually appealing game that can be played on various devices. "The digital version of the flashcards was designed with accessibility, fun, and learning in mind," agrees Bhatia. "We aimed to create an engaging experience that appeals to children (and adults!) while also providing educational value."

The digital version of the flashcards was conceptualised earlier this year by a young and enthusiastic student and game designer, Kruthi Raj, as part of her grad project, explains Bhatia. "We brainstormed and finalised on the digital flashcards that would be her project done as part of her master's degree at the National Institute of Design," she says.

User-friendly features, such as easy navigation, affirmative and encouraging feedback, and smooth gameplay, were incorporated during the design process, says Bhatia, explaining the process of developing these digital flashcards. Not only does the digital version of the flashcards have an Explore section where one can browse through 40 common Indian birds, learn about their food and habitat, and read fun facts about them, but there is now an audio component to the experience – users can also listen to bird calls. "This adds another dimension to recognising birds," she says.

A meaningful connection

The digital version of these flashcards went through multiple iterations and was play-tested with children, both online and offline.

"Feedback from children was incorporated into finalising the design and user experience of the digital flashcards," says Bhatia, who believes that when children engage with these cards, they begin to recognise and learn about different bird species beyond just their names.

"By connecting each bird to its habitat or food sources, kids develop a deeper understanding of what birds need to survive," she says, adding that this hands-on experience sparks a curiosity about the outdoors, inspiring kids to look for birds, observe their behaviours, and build a meaningful connection with the environment. "Over time, this connection fosters a sense of responsibility toward nature conservation."

To know more, log into early-bird.in/flashcard-game/index.html

Urban ecology through stories, verse and flavours

The Urban Ecology Exhibition at IIHS Library. IIHS MEDIA LAB

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), in collaboration with the Bengaluru Sustainability Forum, will host a series of sessions exploring urban biodiversity this Saturday, November 16. These sessions are part of the ongoing Urban Ecology Exhibition at the IIHS Library, an attempt to introduce a broader audience to this emerging field through engaging activities focussed on India.

The exhibition, which will run till December 24, has been curated by Mihir Kulkarni, IIHS School of Environment and Sustainability, Bengaluru Sustainability Forum, and the IIHS Library Team.

Some of the sessions that will occur on Saturday include a talk titled *Can we Make Responsible Seafood Choices?* by Mayuresh Gangal, the co-founder of Know Your Fish Initiative; a talk followed by a cooking demonstration titled *Edible Plants in the Urban Ecosystem* by visual artists and arts facilitator Suresh Kumar G.; a storytelling session titled *Urban Ecology in Folklore and Culture* by performance storyteller, Vikram Sridhar and an eco-poetry workshop, *Weaving Words.*, by poets Mamta Sagar & Kaavya Sanje. The sessions will run between 10.30 and 6 p.m. at the IIHS Campus, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru. Admission is free, but registration is required to attend.

Some of the sessions that will occur on Saturday include a talk titled Can We Make Responsible Seafood Choices? by Mayuresh Gangal

For additional information on this event, contact bengalurusustainabilityforum@gmail.com or log into library.iihs.co.in/exhibitions.

Model rocketry workshop to inspire young innovators

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The workshop will be held till November 15.

The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Center (IN-SPACe) has launched the Model Rocketry India Student Competition 2024-25 to create awareness and inspire Indian students in the field of rocketry.

Eighty-six student-teams participated in the event, which is aimed at promoting innovation and technical expertise. Participants from all over the country will get a chance to gain a deep understanding of the fundamental principles behind model rocket design, propulsion systems, deployment and separation mechanisms, and mission design from industry leaders and academia from ISRO, VSSC, NGEs and IIST

Vinod Kumar, Director, PD, IN-SPACe said, "The purpose of the workshop is to encourage children to learn and innovate through practical sessions. It will give them insights into rocketry and space technology, and ignite passion for space exploration. We believe that empowering these young innovators today would lead them to contribute to make India a global leader in the space arena." "The aim of this workshop is to instill a culture of innovation and critical thinking, and inspire our youth to pursue a career in aerospace engineering, thereby contributing to our nation's growth in this domain," said Air Vice Marshal Premkumar Krishnaswamy.

This initiative supports the growth of a skilled STEM workforce with a specific emphasis on space technology. After thorough evaluation and design reviews, 55 teams have advanced to attend the "Essentials of Model Rocketry Workshop". The workshop will be held at the Air Force Station, Jalahalli (West), till November 15.

Self shock turns crystal to glass at ultralow power density, reveals study by IISc researchers

The study is a collaborative effort with Penn Engineering and MIT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), in a collaborative work, show that a material called indium selenide can shock itself to transform from a crystalline to a glassy phase using very low power.

According to IISc, this transformation lies at the heart of memory storage in devices like CDs and computer RAMs and it consumes a billion times less power than the traditional melt-quench process used to convert crystal to glass.

Collaborative effort

In the study, which is a collaborative effort with the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering and Applied Science (Penn Engineering) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the team discovered that when electric current was passed through wires made of indium selenide, a 2D ferroelectric material, long stretches of the material suddenly amorphised into a glass.

New phenomenon

"This was extremely unusual. I actually thought that I might have damaged the material. Normally, you would need electrical pulses to induce any kind of amorphisation, and here, a continuous current had disrupted the crystalline structure, which shouldn't have happened," said Gaurav Modi, former PhD student at Penn Engineering and one of the first authors of the study which has been published in *Nature*.

IISc said Modi and Ritesh Agarwal, Srinivasa Ramanujan Distinguished Scholar in Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) at Penn Engineering, worked with Pavan Nukala, Assistant Professor at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), IISc and his PhD student Shubham Parate to closely track this process – from atomic to micrometre length scales – under an electron microscope.

South India science drama festival on Nov. 14 and 15

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM), a unit of National Council of Science Museums, is hosting a two-day Southern India Science Drama Festival on November 14 and 15 at VITM on Kasturba Road.

Ten teams

A total of 10 teams representing different States of South India like Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana will enact plays on the theme *'Science and Technology for mankind'*.

Special Guest

H.S. Shivaprakash, poet and playwright, will inaugurate the event at 9.30 a.m. alongside special guest Nilanjan P. Choudhury, science educator and writer. Priyanaka Upendra, actor and producer, will take part in the valedictory programme at 3.30 p.m. as the chief guest.

B.S.Raghuveer, Director (Minority), Department of School Education, will be the guest of honour.

The event will take place at VITM, Kasturba Road.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 14, 1974

Mysore AIR Station from Thursday

Bangalore, Nov. 12: The Mysore Station of All India Radio will go on the air at 6-05 p.m. on Thursday (November 14). The first programme from AIR, Mysore, will be the direct broadcast of the inaugural function arranged in the old auditorium of the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. Dr. D. Javaregowda, Vice Chancellor of Mysore University, will inaugurate the new station. Mrs. Kamala Gopalaswamy wife of the late Dr. M.V. Gopalaswamy, Professor of Psychology of Mysore University, the pioneer who started Mysore Akashvani in 1935 will be the chief guest of the function.

Japanese Sericulture Expert for Karnataka

Bangalore, Nov. 12: The Food and Agriculture Organisation has deputed a Japanese expert in silk breeding to Karnataka, the home of the country's mulberry silk.

The expert is Mr. Yasuhisa Mano, Chief, Silkworm Breeding Laboratory Kansal Branch of the Sericultural Experimental Station of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Mr. Mano had discussions here today, with Mr. Venugopalan Nair, Director of Sericulture, Karnataka. He is spending a month in the State most of which will be at the Central Sericultural Research Station in Mysore. He will suggest improvements in regard to silk work breeding in Karnataka and also in other silk growing areas of the country.

His collection is on record

Retired banker, M Purushothaman has an extensive collection of vinyls and amplifiers, all in perfect working condition

Shilpa Anandraj

> I would cycle around Bengaluru and those days we had jukeboxes. I would use a 25 paise coin to listen to music and then head to the next jukebox to listen to another genre of music.
> I had started collecting cassettes but when tapes gave way to CDs, I decided to collect vinyl.
>
> **M PURUSHOTHAMAN**
> Vinyl collector

Memories and melodies M Purushothaman and his collection. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Vinyl was dead, erased from stores and homes to be replaced by tapes, CDs and finally went digital. In the late 2000s, however, vinyl saw a resurgence finding space with collectors, who valued the aesthetics and performance and M Purushothaman is one such. The retired Reserve Bank of India (RBI) employee is a music buff. "I enjoy everything from Blues and Country to pop and Indian classical music."

Purushothaman transitioned from listening to music on vinyl to cassettes and then CD. "When the switch to digital happened, I decided not to venture down that path. I started collecting vinyl records."

Describing himself as a blue-blooded Bangalorean, Purushothaman graduated from St Joseph's College in 1969. A walk through his home in Indiranagar reveals his passion for music, with the first floor transformed into a music studio. Purushothaman designed the house, which is a reflection of the past kept alive in the present.

While LPs occupy the main room of this floor, the small bedroom is converted into a museum housing rare and vintage cassette players, tape decks, and walkmans including Nachamichi and Techniques players.

Purushothaman says he travelled to Colombo to buy the Techniques player. He is one of few to own Wharfedale speakers. "They suddenly went off the market. I wanted it and so got it." Purushotaman uses all the speakers (a collection of 10) to listen to music.

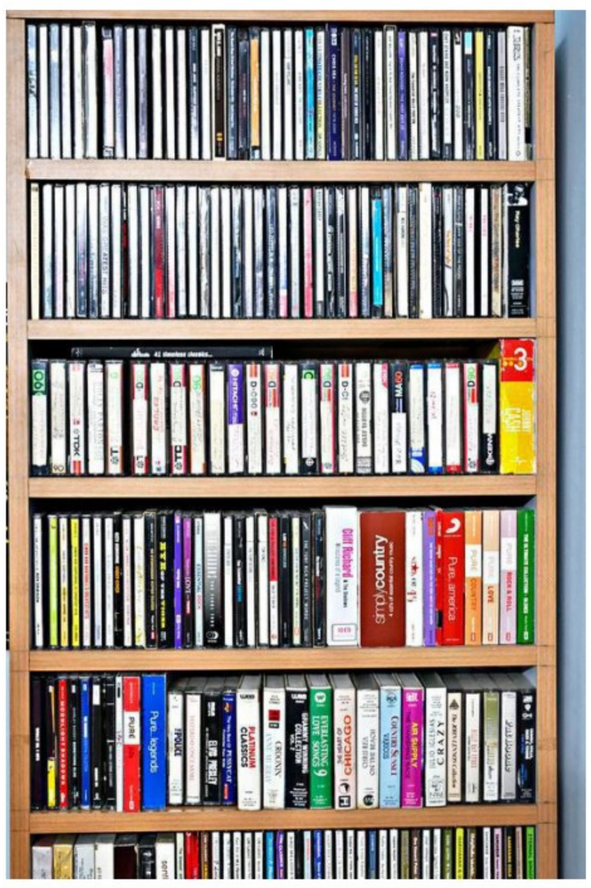
"These are Japanese makes and I have had them for almost 20 years," Purushothaman says, pointing at a stereo system connected to a tape recorder. Amazingly, every piece of equipment is in working condition as Purushothaman shows by playing music on almost every machine. We listen to Bob Marley on the tape deck and head back to the vinyl section.

"It has taken me years to collect these and it is also a huge investment." Purushothaman has more than 1,500 vinyl plates, over 600 cassettes, and 800 CDs, all of which are in playable condition. "Cassettes are mainly pop, and I have Indian classical to jazz, rock and country music on vinyl."

Purushothaman says his passion for music was instilled in him while he was in college. "I would cycle around Bengaluru and those days we had jukeboxes. I would use a 25 paise coin to listen to music and then head to the next jukebox to listen to another genre of music."

He credits a colleague at RBI for turning him into a collector. When Purushothaman plays a Phil Collins' record, connecting the player to a valve amplifier, it breaks the myth of the woofer and base not being powerful in vintage speakers.

It took Purushothaman more than five years to adjust to the transition from records to tape. "There was no other go as records had stopped coming out. Then I started collecting cassettes. When tapes gave way to CDs, I decided to collect vinyl."



His vinyl collection includes The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, Bee Gees, Bob Marley, Cliff Richard & Shadows, Demi Roussos, Dire Straits, Eagles, Harry Belafonte, Led Zeppelin, Neil Diamond, Queen, James Brown, The Police and Whitney Houston. "Country music is my favourite with Don Williams, Johnny Cash topping my list."

Apart from music, Purushothaman also collects magazines, including the complete collection of *National Geographic* from 1960 to 2000. "I still read them, though my grandchildren do not." Purushothaman donated his collection of back issues of Reader's Digest to a few schools a couple of years ago.

Purushothaman opens his house to vinyl fans. "The only condition is we should have common friends as they will be coming into my home." Not associated with any group, Purushothaman calls himself an independent collector.

While vinyl is back with bang, Purushothaman tells new vinyl fans, not to buy one or two plates and then lose interest. "Invest in vinyl only if you are truly passionate about it."

Rather than buying vinyl online, Purushothaman recommends buying from genuine sources spread across the city. He shows us a vinyl that just arrived. "I sourced this 1985 record from Japan," he says as he carefully places it into his shelf.

CITYBEATS

Just cause

NOVEMBER 17
Rotary district 3101 and RBM GENNEXT present *Gift of Life,* a celebration of late actor, Dev Anand's 101 birth anniversary. Funds raised will go towards Sri Sathya Sai Sarla Memorial Hospital and the Rotary Needy Hearts Foundation. Visit https://www.rotarygennext.org/events for donor passes. *At Prestige Srihari Khoday Centre for Performing Arts, 5.30pm.*

Music maker

NOVEMBER 15
Singer Ashu Shukla will perform in Bengaluru as part of his all India Tour. An independent singer-songwriter, this self-taught musician hails from Pune, and has been featured in the Top 5 Fresh Finds India list on Spotify's Wrapped 2021. His love ballads like "Har Ek Pal" and "Phir Se Shuruhave" have crossed a million views. *At Bira 91, Koramangala, 8pm. Tickets on skillboxes.com*

Dance tribute

NOVEMBER 17
There will be a Bharatanatyam tribute to Bhakta Kanakadasa as part of the Kanakadasa Jayanthi celebrations. The event will bring to life the poetic essence of Kanakadasa's compositions through dance and will be presented by Dr Raksha Karthik and her students. Call 98861 07701 for details. *At Devagiri Temple, Banashankari 2nd Stage, 5pm.*

Caricatures in a food journal

A Malvika Mahalaxmi

Safety first At the unveiling of the Merck-Tinkle Comic book at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Meet Captain Khau, aka Rishi, who is on a mission to demystify the microbial contamination of food during his summer vacation. His first case: the mysterious closure of Yadu's Pav Bhaji, followed by an epic farm adventure with Swapna Di. In the Merck-Tinkle comic book *Safe Food, Safe Future*, students learn about microbial contamination and safe food practices through Rishi's adventures.

Under their #SafeFood-First campaign, Merck Life Science launched the *Safe Food, Safe Future* comic book at the Indian Institute of Science recently. The comic books are available in both Kannada and English. "I wanted them to keep it in their houses so that parents, grandparents, and others start reading it," says Janice Goveas, Communication Head of Merck Life Sciences. "Not all of them will be fluent in English." . The goal was to make it accessible to their families so everyone could absorb the information, she adds.

During the book launch, Dr. Veena Panicker, head of biomonitoring at Merck Life Sciences, said, "The goal here isn't to scare you about your food choices but rather to raise your awareness of what you're eating. When we are hungry, we often mindlessly grab whatever is at hand. While this might not affect your health when you are young, poor eating habits can have consequences as you age. "

After the book launch, students engaged in an interactive quiz on food contamination with Merck's CSR team, SPARK, followed by a Q&A session. When asked about the addition of nitrogen gas to chip packets, Dr. Veena explained that it prevents spoilage by slowing oxidation, which can lead to rank odours and tastes.

"We have two main initiatives. First, we focus on the science of vaccines; last year, we produced a video on this topic. This year, we shifted to the science of food safety, which we transformed into comic books. Next year, we plan to cover the science of pure water. Our larger objective is to let people know that many organisations such as ours, are working quietly behind the scenes. We are the ones who enable science and create content in public interest," said Janice.

"However, while people consume food from places such as McDonald's without a doubt, they often ask us numerous questions first," she added.

Two live experiment sessions followed the Q&A session. The first experiment helped students distinguish between adulterated food and pure products using milk and turmeric.

The second experiment session focused on germ detection by using COVID-19 as a context, highlighting its impact on human health and the environment.

Praveen Sudevan

Making pots and peace

Touchy feely A glimpse of the collections crafted by A. Ware Studio. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For many, pottery is not just a craft; it is a form of meditation, a tactile escape from the frenetic pace of modern life. As hands shape clay and the wheel turns, there is a singular focus that can settle the mind and offer a reprieve from daily pressures. Pottery is a medium where quiet, repetitive motions offer a mindful retreat, encouraging a return to slower, more intentional movement.

Namrata Barua, founder of A.Ware Studio in Indiranagar, sees this process as more than creating functional art; for her, it is a chance to share this meditative practice with a growing community. "I dove headfirst into pottery, spending countless hours practising and learning," she says, "As I progressed, I started sharing my work on social media, leading to custom orders and teaching opportunities. In 2021, I started offering structured courses, ranging from weekend workshops for hobbyists to intensive, long-term programs for aspiring professional potters."

Similarly, for Shwetha Sundar, who studies at A.Ware, pottery has been both a skill and a solace. During a challenging period, she found that working with clay provided the grounding she needed. Now, alongside other emerging artists, she brings her creations to life in the shared space of the studio, drawing on her own transformation to inspire her work.

The potters of A.Ware Studio and GOAK Ceramics in Indiranagar (founded by Gauri Oak) will showcase their craft at the second edition of their annual event, Ügam.

The festival highlights works from artists at various stages of their pottery journeys. The exhibition gives potters a platform to present not just their collections but also the personal stories that shape them.

For Vineetha Chandy, a student at GOAK Ceramics, Ügam is the culmination of dedicated practice. She will unveil her Christmas-themed collection, with each piece handcrafted and hand-painted, evoking the warmth and charm of the holiday season. "From plates to bowls, my collection is designed to enhance the festive spirit of a Christmas party," she says. Over months of practice, she spent around 150 hours meticulously shaping, trimming, glazing, and firing each piece.

Gauri of GOAK Ceramics, the co-host of Ügam, says the festival is a platform to foster growth and camaraderie among upcoming potters like Vineetha. "By showcasing the work of our students, we aim to inspire and uplift the pottery community. It's a space where young, talented individuals can gain exposure, receive validation, and connect with potential clients and patrons," she says. "Ügam, in Sanskrit, means a gradual emergence or the beginning of a river. This encapsulates the journey of our students as they navigate the challenges and rewards of pottery."

Meanwhile, Shwetha Sundar, Gouri's student, draws on her memories of cosy gatherings during the pandemic to craft a collection of barware – beer mugs, goblets, shot glasses, and chip-and-dip sets – all inspired by shared moments of comfort and camaraderie.

"During those times, we found solace in simple pleasures like sharing drinks and snacks," she says. Her collection is both a tribute to those connections and an exploration of pottery's power to resonate emotionally with people. She believes pottery resonates because it offers a unique blend of healing and mindfulness, creating a space for reflection amid a world often fixated on productivity.

Ügam is on November 16, 10am to 7pm at Jeevanam Yoga, Indiranagar.

Boats rescuing marooned passengers from the Island Express at Kerala's Perumon on July 8, 1988. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Railways refuses to share inquiry report on Perumon tragedy

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Southern Railway has refused to disclose details of the investigation into the Perumon train tragedy, in which 105 people lost their lives when the Bangalore-Tiruvananthapuram Central Island Express derailed on a bridge, causing several coaches to plunge into Kerala's Ashtamudi Lake on July 8, 1988.

The Chief Public Information Officer (CPIO) stated that the final report by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, who investigated the accident, was "confidential". He said that the inquiry reports were statutory documents and were exempted from disclosure under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

The issue arose from a petition filed by Syamdas D., who requested a copy of the inquiry report on the train accident.

The CPIO and First Appellate Authority denied the request, invoking Section 8(1) of the RTI Act, specifically, clause (b) (information prohibited by any court of law or the disclosure of which may constitute contempt of court) and clause (d) (information related to commercial confidence or intellectual property, where disclosure could harm a third party's competitive position unless larger public interest justifies it).

Aggrieved by the refusal, the petitioner appealed to the Central Information Commission (CIC). In response, the CPIO argued that the Commissioner of Railway Safety had classified the report as a "confidential document," not to be produced or cited as evidence in court.

Information Commissioner Vinod Kumar Tiwari, after reviewing arguments from both sides, upheld the CPIO's decision.

Railway sources said that the exact cause of the Perumon accident remains undetermined. Theories such as a tornado, excessive speed of the train on the bridge, faulty wheels, and poor track maintenance were suspected but never confirmed.

Nagamohan Das to head panel to suggest internal reservation

The commission has been given two months to submit its recommendation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

H.N. Nagamohan Das

The State government has appointed H.N. Nagamohan Das, retired judge of the Karnataka High Court, to head the commission of inquiry to recommend to the government on the internal reservation for the Scheduled Caste (SC) communities. The commission has two months to submit its recommendation.

The order on appointing Mr. Das to head the commission was issued by the Social Welfare Department on Wednesday based on the decision of the Cabinet taken on October 28. It was based on his recommendation in an earlier commission that the reservation quota for SCs and STs was raised from 15% to 17% and 3% to 7%, respectively. Mr. Das is also probing the "40% commission" allegations that surfaced during the previous BJP government's rule.

The single-man commission will collate empirical data on the representation of various communities among the SCs in public education and employment and submit its recommendation on implementation of internal reservation.

The State government, which has been under pressure from various Dalit groups to implement internal reservation, had announced that the reservation pie would be sliced up among communities based on empirical data to be acceptable to courts. The Dalit left faction has been for nearly four decades seeking internal reservation as it believes the Dalit right communities have a bigger share in the reservation for the SCs in education and employment that now stands at 17%.

The A.J. Sadashiva Commission had in 2012 submitted a report on internal reservation, recommending a sub-matrix within the reservation quota for Dalit left and Dalit right communities, Lambanis, Bhovis, Koracha, Koramas, and other communities. There are 101 sub-communities among Dalits in Karnataka.

Karnataka to roll out e-khatas for all properties in gram panchayats, ULBs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has decided to roll out e-khatas by rural and urban local bodies (ULBs) across the State for all kinds of property registrations to avoid fictitious transactions using fake manual khatas.

Ministers for Revenue Krishna Byre Gowda, Minister for RDPR Priyank Kharge, and Municipal Administration Minister Rahim Khan on Wednesday held a meeting with officials of four departments and said the Urban Development Department would roll out e-khatas for all gram panchayats (GPs), ULBs, and statutory bodies such as the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA). The Urban Development Department has agreed to roll out provisions and procedures for e-khata, on the lines of those implemented by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

All three Ministers agreed a simpler khata procedure had to be implemented to ease the difficulties being faced by people in rural areas in GP limits to obtain a khata.

The meeting took note of the large number of residential and commercial properties without any khata in municipalities or corporations. Once these owners obtain e-khata for properties, sale registrations can also take place subsequently, the Ministers said.

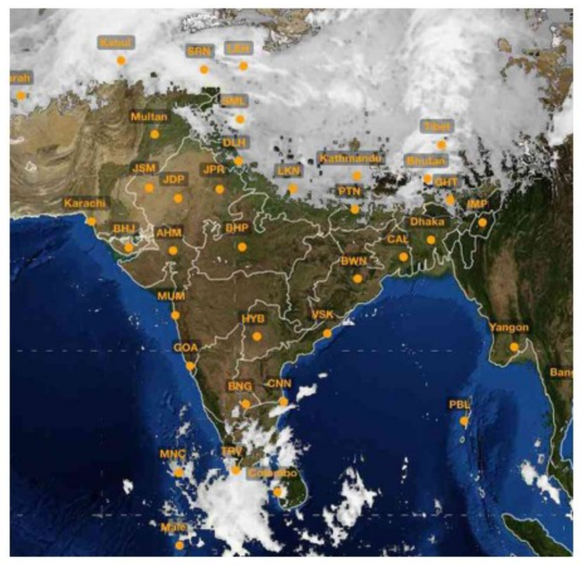
Mr. Gowda informed at the meeting that "for all the types of properties, be it housing, agriculture or commercial, khata is required by law". He stressed that there are various court directions specifying the need for e-khata-based registrations. All these days transactions were happening "either on an adhoc basis illegally, quasi legally or legally".

The Revenue Minister informed the Secretary, Urban Development, to expedite the process of issuance of e-khata for properties coming under its jurisdiction. The Secretary in turn said that directions and circulars had been issued for issuing the e-khata.

Similarly, the Urban Development Department has been asked to take steps to bring MUDA on to e-Aasthi for streamlining e-khata process.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.8	20.2	Kozhikode	—	35.6	26.1
Ahmedabad	—	35.1	19.5	Kurnool	—	33.5	24.7
Aizawl	—	29.1	17.9	Lucknow	—	31.9	17.2
Allahabad	—	34.0	18.0	Madurai	—	31.8	25.6
Bengaluru	—	27.4	20.6	Mangaluru	—	34.9	24.6
Bhopal	—	31.4	15.5	Mumbai	—	36.1	21.4
Bhubaneswar	—	32.4	21.6	Mysuru	—	31.0	21.0
Chandigarh	—	28.2	15.8	New Delhi	—	27.8	17.0
Chennai	—	28.9	25.0	Patna	—	30.6	22.2
Coimbatore	1	29.0	23.4	Port Blair	14	30.9	24.4
Dehradun	—	27.4	14.0	Puducherry	5.6	26.2	23.0
Gangtok	0.8	17.5	12.8	Pune	—	33.4	18.7
Goa	—	35.0	27.0	Raipur	—	32.5	19.3
Guwahati	—	31.5	19.5	Ranchi	—	28.4	17.0
Hubballi	—	30.0	22.0	Shillong	—	21.0	10.5
Hyderabad	—	31.0	22.4	Shimla	—	24.0	11.2
Imphal	—	28.1	18.5	Srinagar	9	15.9	6.4
Jaipur	—	32.4	18.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.4	25.5
Kochi	0.4	31.8	25.8	Tiruchi	0.1	27.7	24.6
Kohima	—	23.1	9.6	Vijayawada	—	32.0	25.2
Kolkata	—	31.2	21.6	Visakhapatnam	0.8	32.6	25.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.17	..43	.33	...241	...180	
Bengaluru	.18	.31	.58	90	70	
Chennai	.17	..30	.15	72	70	
Delhi	.13	108	114	...467	...467	
Hyderabad	...7	102	.57	...158	...152	
Kolkata	.12	..78	.30	...106	...118	
Lucknow	...8	3	.53	...324	...236	
Mumbai	.46	.32	.63	...179	...160	
Pune	...6	.74	.31	...217	...142	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..30	.30	70	72	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Delhi recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 418 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 20

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

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TGSPDCL (erstwhile TSSPDCL)

E-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)

TGSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of **(1)** 11KV 3-way RMUS **(2)** 11KV 24V LV VCBs with CTs and CRPs **(3)** IED Relays (IEC 61850 Protocol) **(4)** 3Cx16+25 Sq.mm LT XLPE AB Cable **(5)** 33KV 24V Feeder VCBs with CTs and CRPs **(6)** 3.5Cx70 Sq.mm LT XLPE Cable **(7)** 3.5 Cx185 Sq.mm LT XLPE Cable **(8)** 11KV Metal Parts (C&T) **(9)** 33KV Metal Parts (B&S) on e-procurement platform. For further details of each item above, please visit **www.tgsouthernpower.org, www.tender.telangana.gov.in** and **www.auction.telangana.gov.in**. Phone:040-23431360, 1033, 1035, 1026. Sd/-

R.O.No.: 648-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date:13.11.2024 **CHIEF ENGINEER (P&MM)**

சித்த மருத்துவ மைய ஆராய்ச்சி நிலையம்
(மத்திய சித்த மருத்துவ ஆராய்ச்சிக் குழுமம், ஆயுஷ் அமைச்சகம், இந்திய அரசு)
सिद्ध केंद्रीय अनुसंधान संस्थान
(सी.सी.आर.एस., सेवाई, आयुष मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
अन्ना सरकारी अस्पताल परिसर, अरुम्बाक्कम, चेन्नई - 600106

SIDDHA CENTRAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Central Council for Research in Siddha, Chennai, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India)
Anna Govt. Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai – 600106, E-mail: crisiddha@gmail.com
Phone: 044-26214925, 26214809, Web: http://crisiddha.tn.nic.in

Advt. No. 2/2024 **Walk-in Interview**

Walk-in interview for the post of Junior Research Fellow (Chemistry) - One for IMR research project titled "Elucidating the chemistry of copper based higher order Nano formulations, comprehending Heterogeneous Reaction Systems" at SCRI, Chennai will be held in the above address on 04.12.2024 at 10.00 a.m. Details available in the website www.siddhacouncil.com and www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in.

Assistant Director (Siddha), Sci - IV & I/c

KARNATAKA VETERINARY ANIMAL AND FISHERIES SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, Nandinagar Bidar

No.EO/KVAFSU/T.No.130/Works/2024-25 Date:26.08.2024

:: TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement portal only) ::

1) Works Details: Civil / Electrical works at different campuses of KVAFSU, Bidar 2) Tender Estimate Amount: **Rs.19,53,200.00**, 3) Contractors eligibility details: As mentioned e-portal, 4) Tender Amount Details : Rs.19,53,200.00, 5) Cost of tender form and EMD details: As mentionede-portal, 6) Last date for submitting application : **25.11.2024 up to 5.00 PM**, 8) Opening of financial bid: **27.11.2024 at 11.30. AM**, 9) For more details contact office address, contract numbers: Office of the Estate Officer, KVAFSU, Nandinagar, Bidar, 08482-245446, 10) Website details: e-procurement portal- **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/Bidar/241/KSMC&A/2024-25 **Sd/- Estate Officer KVAFSU, Bidar**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of Chief Health Officer (Public Health),
BBMP Head Office, Ground Floor, Annex-2 Building,
N. R. Square, Bengaluru - 02

No.: BBMP/2024-25/SE1072 **Date: 13.11.2024**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites short term tenders from eligible bidders for the following:

1) Tender for the supply of Group-D on outsource basis.

Following are the events of bid process:

(1) RFP Reference No.: **BBMP/2024-25/SE1072**

(2) Date of commencement of download of RFP document from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in:** from **13.11.2024** onwards**. (3)** Last date and time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: upto **16.11.2024, 5:00 p.m. (4)** Date and time of pre-bid meeting: **16.11.2024** at **12:30 p.m.** at the following venue: Office of the CHO, Ground Floor, Annexe-3 Building, Bengaluru-560002. **(5)** Last date and time for uploading of RFP in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: upto **27.11.2024, 5:00 p.m. (6)** Date and time of online opening of RFP applications in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **28.11.2024**, **5:10 p.m. (7)** Place of opening of RFP applications: **Online at Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. (8)** Address for communication: **Chief Health Officer (Public Health), Office of the CHO, Ground Floor, Annex-3 Building, Bengaluru - 560002. Email: choph515@gmail.com, Phone: 080-22975516.**

(i) Tender documents may be downloaded from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. (ii) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Chief Health Officer (Public Health), BBMP

ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ವಿಶೇಷಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಕ್ಷಮಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ
(ಐ.ಎಂ.ಎ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಕಂಪನಿ ವಂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು)
ಪೋಡಿಯಂ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, 3ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರಯ್ಯ ಗೋಪುರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560001.
Ph: 080-29565353 Email: splocaima21@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: SPLOCA/ADM/30/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.11.2024

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: ವಿಶೇಷಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಕ್ಷಮಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಐಎಂಎ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಕಂಪನಿ ವಂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು / ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ವಿಶೇಷಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಕ್ಷಮಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿ (ಐಎಂಎ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಕಂಪನಿ ವಂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು) ಗಳವರ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಮಂಜೂರಾಗಿ ನೇಮಕವಾಗದೇ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಆಸಕ್ತ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಂದ Resume ಅನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಯನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ.

Last date of submission of Resume: 20.11.2024

ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ವಿವರ:

Sl. No.	Post / Designation	Qualification	No. of Post	Contract wage per month
		Basic		
1.	**Legal Typist**	LLB, Registered at Bar Council of Karnataka, typing speed 40 WPM both English & Kannada. Ability to communicate in both Kannada & English.	1	18,700/- with OT charges and Sitting fees as per Government norms (on outsource basis)

Sl. No.	Post / Designation	No. of Post	Maximum Contract wage per month (Actual shall depend upon qualification & Experience	Qualification
1.	Assistant Controller	1	Rs. 75,330/-	Either retired from State Audit & Accounts Department of any Accounts & Audit service from Central Government, within the last 2 years in equivalent position, with minimum qualification of B.Com for Assistant controller & not above the age of 62 years **or** M.Com with at least 10 years' experience in accounts in any reputed Firm / Government organisation in an equivalent position and for Accounts Superintendent M.Com with 5 years' experience. A chartered Accountant is preferred for the post of Assistant Controller. The applicant must have sound knowledge of and familiarity with single entry accounting.
2.	Accounts Superintendent	1	Rs. 59,355/-	

The Position to be filled is a post created in the office of Special officer & Competent Authority, Financial Frauds Revenue Department Government of Karnataka vide Government Order and is renewable year on year. It is a post on contract, renewable on satisfactory performance with periodic enhancement of salary scales, **not a permanent government service.**

ಸಹಿ/–
ವಿಶೇಷಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಕ್ಷಮಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಐಎಂಎ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಕೆಪಿಐಡಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು
ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ವಾಸಸಂಇ/ಸಿಪಿ/ಎಎಎ/3175/2024–25

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of general public that my client Kota Rangaaswamy Setty is intend to purchase the schedule property mentioned herein under from Mrs. Lalitha Mohan, W/o late Dr. N. T. Mohan. Any person/persons objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right, title, interest or any type of claim for the schedule property is hereby call upon to file their objections / claims whatsoever along with documentary proof on or before 14 days from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned Advocate failing which our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable residential property site bearing No.609 (Old), 23 (New) BBMP PID No.59-107-23, measuring East-West: 40 feet, North-South: 60 feet with ground and 1st floor residential building, situated at 10th Cross, WKP Road, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, bounded on the: East by : Site No.608, West by : Site No.610, North by : Road, South by : Site No.614.

Sri. Shivayogi B. Hallur, Advocate
R L Patil Associates
No.3, Swastik Complex, Sheshadripuram,
BENGALURU - 560020. Mob: 9845242066
Email : shivayogihallur@yahoo.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my client, have agreed to purchase the schedule property from its owner **Mr. Bangalore Rangaraju Prakash, Mr. Bangalore Rangaraju Prasad, Mrs. Hema Sridhar and their family members**, r/at No.29, 1st Main, Park Area Wilson Garden, Bengaluru-560027.

Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential Immovable Property bearing No.29, situated at 1st Main Road, Park Area, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, presently comes under BBMP limits of Hombegowda Nagar Ward No.145, bearing PID No.62-117-29, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 65 Feet in all totally measuring 2600 sft. or 241.5458 sq.mtrs, along with RCC roofed house Ground Floor 1300 Sq.ft. and First Floor 1300 Sq.ft. walls constructed with Brick and Cement, Doors and windows were made out of jungle wood, Red oxide flooring with all civic amenities property, together with all the appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on as follows:- East by : Private Property, West by : Private Property, North by : Private Property, South by : Service Road.

Sd/- **Prasanna .B.R.** Advocate
56, Ahana Apartments, Flat No.7,
4th Floor, 9th 'A' Cross, Kumarapark West,
Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560 020.
Bengaluru. Dated : 13-11-2024

Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited
(Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)

General Notice in respect of Interlocutory Application IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKAAT BENGALURU WRIT PETITION NO. 29628/2015(GM-RES) (SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE TO THE R2 BY THE WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION VIDE COURT ORDER DATED 25.10.2024)

Petitioner

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED, A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT, 1956 HAVING ITS REGD. OFFICE AT NO.29, VIJAYANAGARA 2ND STAGE, HINKAL, MYSURU 570 017, REP. BY GENERAL MANAGER (COMMERCIAL).

VS

Respondents

1. INTERNATIONAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY PRIVATE LIMITED, A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1956, HAVING ITS CORPORATE OFFICE AT A-508, 215 ATRIUM ANDHERI KURLA ROAD, ANDHERI(EAST), MUMBAI 400 093, REP. BY ITS DIRECTOR & OTHERS

TO

2. HASSAN BIOMASS POWER SUPPLY LIMITED,
A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1956, HAVING ITS REGD. OFFICE AT 5022, SHOBHA DAHILA, SARJAPUR, OUTER RING ROAD, NEAR BELLANDUR LAKE, BANGALORE 560 013, REP. BY ITS CHIEF OPERATIONS MANAGER.

Whereas the above named petitioner have preferred I.A.No.1/2022 praying this Court to and also on petition filed under Articles 226 & 227 of the Constitution of India, praying to:-

a) Quash the auction notice dated 12.06.2015 (Annexure J) issued by Respondent No.1;
b) Declare that the action of the Respondent No.1 in conducting the auction sale in furtherance of auction notice dated 12.06.2015 is illegal and arbitrary;
c) Declare that the rights of Respondent No.1 to recover dues of Respondent No.2 is subject to the right of the Petitioner to recover electricity dues under the provisions of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act 1964.
d) Declare that the Petitioner has a right to recover arrears of electricity tariff as arrears of land revenue in terms of Regulation 41 of the KERC (ES & D) Code 2000-01.
e) Direct the 3rd Respondent to initiate action in terms of communication dated 02.07.2015 (Annexure-N);

Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this Court either in person or through counsel duly instructed or through someone authorised by law, to act for you in the above Writ Petition on 11/12/2024 at 10.30 A.M. in case you intend to contest the Writ Petition. If you fail to appear, the same will be dealt with, heard and decided in your absence.

Sd/- General Manager (Commercial), CESC, Mysuru.

DIPR/DDMYS-789/KSMCA-535/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಆಕುಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಹೆ.ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಆವರಣ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು – 10.
Ph. No: 0821-2979772 E-mail:-khsdrp.divmys@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಆಕುಕ/ಇಂ.ವಿ./ಕಾ.ಅ/ಮೈ/ಸಇ–3&4/ಟೆಂಡರ್–16/2024–25
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.10.2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಮಳವಳ್ಳಿ, ಸೋಮವಾರಪೇಟೆ, ಸಕಲೇಶಪುರ, ಮೂಡಿಗೆರೆ, ಸುಳ್ಯ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಮಟ್ಟದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ದುರಸ್ಥಿ, ನವೀಕರಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಲಾದ ಮೂರನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಲ್ಕನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಮಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳು: 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ:21.11.2024 ರಂದು 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. **2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ (ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್): 22.11.2024 ರಂದು 16.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ (Through KPPP) https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ದಿಂದ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. **ಸೂಚನೆ:** ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುವ/ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು

DIPR/DDMYS-779/KSMCA-533/2024-25

Surprise spike

October's inflation pace surpasses expectations, dashing rate cut hopes

India's consumer prices have gained fresh momentum over September and October, rendering the tangible softening in inflation to a pace below the official median target of 4% in the two months preceding them, a fleeting reprieve. From 3.65% in August, retail price rise had hit a nine-month high of 5.5% in September. To be clear, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), in its October review, had termed the inflation moderation as slow and uneven, and anticipated a reversal in September. A sharp surge in vegetable prices, particularly tomato, from the onset of the festival-packed month of October, and an uptick in edible oil prices after nearly two years of decline, had stoked anticipation that the inflation may end up a tad higher than September. However, the Consumer Price Index for October beat all economists' projections by a wide margin, to rise 6.2%, the highest since August 2023 when it was up 6.8%.

Food prices remained the key bugbear as they have been through most high inflation periods this year. However, the uptick was alarming at 10.9%, the highest since last July, with urban consumers facing a sharper 11.1% uptick. Within the food basket, vegetable prices boomed 42.2%, the highest surge in almost five years, led by tomato prices that more than doubled year-on-year. Global edible oil price spikes also weighed in along with pricier fruits. The Finance Ministry, in its economic review late last month, had highlighted that the current bout of inflation is driven by a few food items and is not feeding into other items of consumption. Core inflation (excluding food and energy) has been well under the headline inflation rate and continued to be comfortable, and sufficient food grain buffers with a healthy *kharif* harvest, it said, would alleviate price pressures. These assumptions may need a rethink. The Governor of the RBI, Shaktikanta Das, had noted that core inflation had bottomed out, and is beginning to show – personal care and effects' prices were up 11% in October. Even if food prices cool with fresh crop arrivals in coming months, other components of the price gauge are heating up. A durable decline in inflation that the MPC is waiting for to mull interest rate cuts is now a poor prospect while hopes of a December rate cut are out of the window. That this coincides with a period of slackening growth momentum and notably waning demand in urban India bodes ill for private investments. Policymakers at the Centre must acknowledge the interlinked challenge of inflation and consumption, so that an attempt can be made to fix what they can with the fiscal tools at their disposal – be it tax cuts, or better food management.

Manipur's misery

The Centre must take the initiative in resolving the crisis

Ten armed militants were killed in an encounter with the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the police on November 11 in Manipur's Jiribam district, as ethnic conflict continues to pulverise the State. Officials said the deaths took place in retaliatory firing after the militia attacked security personnel and internally displaced people sheltered in the vicinity. Women, children and the elderly have been facing the brunt of the violence that began in May 2023. More than 250 people have been killed and 60,000 displaced since the conflict between Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities began. Three women and three children, including an eight-month-old infant, were allegedly abducted and two elderly persons were burnt to death on Monday in Jiribam. The victims were among the 13 Meitei people who were already displaced from their homes in June. Two of the 10 weapons found at the encounter site had been looted from the police, an indication of the serious governance crisis in the State. The Kuki Students' Organisation has called for 'non-cooperation' with the CRPF, claiming that the militia men were on a security patrol.

The Bharatiya Janata Party State government led by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has been unable to quell the violence or reassure the Kuki communities that consider him to be partisan. That leaves the entire responsibility of managing the conflict on the shoulders of the Centre. In October, the Ministry of Home Affairs organised a meeting with political representatives of both the Kuki and Meitei communities but no meaningful progress towards peace could be achieved. Kuki outfits are demanding the creation of a Union Territory with legislature which will require a division of Manipur. Ethnic relations in India's northeast are extremely complex, and violence, once it erupts, can continue for a long spell. Kuki representatives continue to express hope in intervention by the Centre to resolve the conflict and that is an opportunity which the Centre must vigorously utilise. Central police forces and the Indian Army are also largely trusted by the Kuki, notwithstanding the incident involving the CRPF this week. In a porous border region populated by numerous armed militia groups, policing alone cannot restore peace and order. A lasting end to the violence can be brought about only through a political arrangement of accommodation and the coexistence of communities. Only the Centre has the resources and the capacity to attempt that. The fresh surge in violence is a setback, but the Centre must step up its efforts to nudge the Meitei and the Kuki communities towards peace.

The perfect cocktail of layered discrimination

Salem Dharanidharan

a spokesperson of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) party and the Deputy Secretary of the party's IT wing

Garga Chatterjee

General Secretary, Bangla Pokkho

Delimitation, the biggest elephant in the room called the Indian Union, is about to take centre stage. Statesmen such as Indira Gandhi and Atal Bihari Vajpayee appreciated the explosive potential of delimitation and kicked the can down the road, as it were, to be handled by a future generation. Here we are as that future generation. Do we kick the can further down the road? Do we detonate it? Or do we defuse it? We, the people of India, are at a historical crossroad. Will India remain a federal union? Or will it become an ethno-linguistic majoritarian mega state with minority ethno-linguistic mutinies?

Federalism is part of the inviolable basic structure of the Constitution of India. The Indian Union is a federal union. States are the federating units. Most States find their basis in language and many States of the Indian Union are continuations of ethno-linguistic homelands that have existed for centuries or even millennia. This is precisely why the Supreme Court of India has termed States as political units and not arbitrary administrative units.

Indian unity was forged in the anti-imperialist struggle against British imperialism and that unity continues in independent India through a delicate balance of power distribution between federating units and ongoing dialogue between diverse peoples of the Indian subcontinent.

What is delimitation? Article 82 of the Indian Constitution requires that the number of Lok Sabha seats per State is recalibrated after each Census by the Delimitation Commission, in accordance with the population. Delimitation last happened based on the 1971 census, when in 1976, the Indira Gandhi government suspended the delimitation process for 25 years, until 2001. It was further suspended for another 25 years by the A.B. Vajpayee government, and would lapse by 2026, unless another amendment is introduced. The freezing of delimitation was done in order not to disincentive States that were effective in population control. However, the Narendra Modi government has given hints about undertaking fresh delimitation before the elections in 2029.

Delimitation as a threat

Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is a demographic indicator that estimates the average number of children a woman gives birth to during her reproductive years. Even today, TFR of non-Hindi States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal is in the 1.6-1.8 range, below the replacement level of 2.1. The TFR of Hindi heartland States such as Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, at about 3.5, is well above the replacement level. This has been true for many decades and thus by now, a recalibration via delimitation will mean a radical decrease in the proportion of non-Hindi State seats in the Lok Sabha. For example, if delimitation takes place, the proportion of seats in Parliament for the southern States would be reduced from 25% to 17% and the number of seats from Hindi heartland States where the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has electoral dominance would increase from 40% to 60%.

States such as Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu already receive only about 30% of the total funds that contribute as direct taxes, while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh receive between 250% and 350% of their overall contribution. The decision of 16th Finance Commission to include the 2011 Census instead of the 1971 Census to devolve funds to States will be even more discriminatory to developed States. It is cause for worry that continuation of the same pattern would profoundly exacerbate the already existing bias against the non-Hindi States.

Fostering discrimination

India was conceived as a permanent, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual federal union, and not as a mono ethno-linguistic majoritarianism territory. The difference with states such as China and Russia is that they are only federal in name, the population being made of a ethno-linguistic group with a majority of upwards of 80% and several other small minority nationalities. In India's case, however, there never was a majority ethno-linguistic group. India is a federation of various ethno-linguistic stakeholders, none of whom is a majority in India. But the major ones among them form the basis of various linguistic States, where they are super majority. But with long-term differences of TFR among States, and thereby, ethno-linguistic groups, this long-settled pattern faces the threat of being unsettled. Since 1947, the population proportion of Bengali, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu have all decreased while the population proportion of one language, Hindi, has massively increased, from 36% to nearly 43%; 43% is not too far away from the majority.

The ratio of Lok Sabha seats allocated to a State to the total number of Lok Sabha seats represents the Stakeholdership Index of a State in matters of the Union. Delimitation will reward the non-performers of population control policies that will effectively dominate and determine the policy of the Union. The performers will have a declining say and will be reduced to being mere revenue contributors The proportion of GDP and revenue from non-Hindi States is much greater than their population percentage while the proportion of GDP and revenue from Hindi States is lesser than their population percentage.

Post delimitation, States such as Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, where the BJP is dominant, will have their Stake holdership Index nearly double, whereas States such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu where the BJP has one to zero seats will see it being reduced by 30%-40%. Such a situation would skew Indian democracy in favour of the Hindi States, with other regions risking a loss of electoral dominance. Without electoral dominance and representation in the Union, this would further alienate the non-Hindi states.

Thus, the implementation of delimitation will create the perfect cocktail of layered discrimination. Non-Hindi States that have implemented population control measures successfully will lose a say in Union affairs. Non-Hindi States that contribute a majority of GDP, resources, revenue and taxes will lose say in how their monies are used. The 'unsuccessful' will create policies for the 'successful' with money from the 'successful'. No taxation without representation was the cry in the Boston Tea Party. In a similar vein, delimitation will further shrink the representation of States that produce taxes. This is a very risky and dangerous path to pursue. There is no place for any system in India where some States increasingly look like owners of an imperial centre while others mimic colonies. Therefore, it is necessary to balance two competing constitutional values: formal equality in voting and federalism.

Possible solutions

There can be many solutions. First, just follow what Mrs Gandhi and A.B. Vajpayee did and extend the freeze by another 25 years and defer to a future generation.

Second, permanently freeze delimitation as far as the India-wide redistribution of seats across States is concerned.

Third, go through with delimitation as envisaged. But supplement it with a long-due new grand federal compact such that the Concurrent List is abolished in favour of an expanded State list, all residual powers vested to the States and large-scale transfer of subjects are made from the Union list to the State list, keeping external defence, external affairs and currency in Delhi's hands. This would balance delimitation with decentralisation, softening the majoritarian blow inherent in delimitation.

Fourth, preserve the present seat proportion between States in the Lok Sabha but increase the number of seats in each State to partially offset the representational deficit of population explosion States.

India is a unique experiment. It is not an ethnic-linguistic majoritarian empire like Russia or China. It is not a mono-linguistic nation state such as Bangladesh and Thailand. India is like Africa or Europe, a tapestry of languages, ethnicities, cultures, civilisations and faiths, but with a crucial difference. It is bound in an inseparable political Union born in the crucible of anti-imperialist struggle with one, unified voice when speaking to others. India is the grandest experiment of plurality in modern human history. Majoritarianism and partisanship cannot be allowed to undo it and threaten its unity. History will not forgive us.

Under the existing formulation of delimitation, there is a grave risk of some 'unsuccessful' States becoming the 'owners of an imperial centre', imperilling 'successful' States

The CKM syndrome as the price of modernity

Dr. Sakthirajan Ramanathan

Assistant Professor of Nephrology at the Madras Medical College

Dr. Tanuj Moses Lamech

Assistant Professor of Nephrology, SRM Medical College

Cardiovascular Kidney Metabolic (CKM) syndrome, an alarming, intricate interplay of lifestyle and the influence of globalisation on health, is fast becoming a silent, global killer. It begins insidiously, often marked by a gradual rise in body weight and waist circumference that soon escalates into obesity, setting off a chain reaction in the body. Major organs such as the heart, the kidneys, liver and blood vessels bear the brunt, leaving those affected vulnerable to a startling risk – premature death.

In Tamil Nadu, a State known for its strong public health framework, the markers of well-being, i.e., life expectancy, infant and maternal mortality, and deaths from infectious diseases, fare better than the national average. Yet, even here, a troubling transition is underway. The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) report starkly illuminates the mounting burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which account for 69% of premature deaths and 68% of years lost to disability.

According to the 2020 Tamil Nadu STEPS survey (the World Health Organization's step wise approach for NCD surveillance), 28.5% of participants were overweight. Further, 11.4% had obesity, 33.9% had hypertension and 17.6% had diabetes. This epidemic echoes the findings of the National Family Health Survey (2019-21), which places India's diabetes prevalence at 16.1% and obesity at a staggering 40.3%. Compounded by low awareness and poor glycemic control, especially among poorer communities, the result is an alarming public health crisis. In addition, hypertension – affecting 24% of men and 21% of women –remains inadequately managed, with less than one-fourth achieving target blood pressure control.

A new paradigm is essential. Without a shift in approach, the impact of the CKM syndrome on middle-aged individuals and on the economy at large will only deepen.

Health economics, the cost of CKM

Tamil Nadu's health expenditures tell a sobering story. Nearly ₹1,200 crore is spent annually on insurance premiums under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS), covering 1.4 crore families. Topping the list of claims are coronary angioplasty and dialysis, which are both stark outcomes of the CKM syndrome. Meanwhile, the private sector has seen insurance premiums soar, tracking the rise in NCD cases over the past decade. While the aim of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals is also to reduce NCD deaths by one-third by 2030, the current trends of rising obesity, diabetes, and hypertension rates threaten not only those goals but also the health budget and the economy as a whole.

Need for integrated clinics

The American Heart Association recently laid emphasis on the importance of integrated care for CKM calling for a shift from segmented care to unified, simultaneous management of risk factors. Rather than isolating diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and kidney disease, the association argues that health professionals should view them as symptoms of a broader metabolic condition.

Today's management models miss key opportunities for optimal, holistic risk assessment. Patients with multiple affected organs may see separate specialists for each issue, leading to fragmented care, drug interactions, repeated visits, and, ultimately, a loss in wages and productivity. An integrated clinic could address these issues, with a multidisciplinary team of a diabetologist, cardiologist, nephrologist, dietician and physiotherapist working together. Public health teaching hospitals could make this a reality, acting as centres for training medical students and expanding the model to secondary- and primary-care levels.

Tamil Nadu's health efforts begin early. For pregnant mothers, the State's Muthu Lakshmi Reddy scheme provides direct cash transfers and nutrition kits, a step toward addressing low birth weight (a known precursor to future diabetes, hypertension, and kidney disease). Could the inclusion of protein-rich foods such as two eggs a day for mothers from the fourth month of pregnancy, further improve outcomes? For the next generation – preschool through secondary schoolchildren – regular weight and obesity screenings could identify high-risk individuals early.

Since the 1960s, rice, which is a high glycemic food, has been widely accessible through the Public Distribution System (PDS), transforming the nutrition landscape. But this staple, while sustaining the population, has also contributed to obesity. In response, partial replacement of rice in the PDS with millets is essential.

In addition, replacement of common salt with low sodium salt can be considered as a pilot project as there is enough evidence for reduction of hypertension with low sodium salt in clinical trials. But there must be caution in people with heart or kidney ailments and where common salt is preferred.

Globalisation and CKM

The lifestyle of today, which is marked by long work hours and night shifts, has been called "the gift of globalisation", for better or worse. As Alex Soojung-Kim Pang writes in his book *Rest*, the global economy demands that we ignore our need for rest, idolising workaholism and dismissing rest as a weakness. In reality, rest is essential for productivity and creativity. Long working hours and frequent night shifts lead to brain fatigue and reduced secretion of happy hormones, often counterbalanced by eating super-palatable foods which are rich in salt, sugar and butter. Our physiology, however, tells a different story. Extended work hours disrupt hormone levels, with cortisol (the "stress hormone") driving unhealthy carbohydrate and lipid metabolism. The result is obesity.

Regulation of work hours and shifts, many argue, is as essential a public health measure as any medical intervention. In the end, the goal is simple. Not only does an economy grow, but there is also a a society that lives longer, healthier and happier. We must pause and ponder over this today, which is also World Diabetes Day (November 14).

An unhealthy lifestyle and the influence of globalisation are silently shaping a major global health issue

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Healthier living

Lifestyle management (Editorial page, November 13) is of utmost significance for the prevention and the control of Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. A healthy diet in conjunction with proper physical activities not only helps improve the quality of life but also cuts down on pharma purchases. Spreading awareness about healthy living and a healthy diet is important, especially in remote parts of the country. Perhaps non-governmental organisations can hold camps demonstrating healthy ways of cooking, making diets nutritious and ensuring greater senior citizen participation in physical activity.

Dr. Prabha Sharma,
Gurugram, Haryana

Food prices

The trinity of Indian kitchens — the tomato, onion and potato — is progressively becoming unaffordable due to food inflation. There are recipes that can be made with local vegetables but which have fallen out of favour — *alu bukharas* and *shakarkandis* come to one's mind or been replaced by those saturated with tomatoes and potatoes. Perhaps this is an opportunity to innovate instead of despair.

Nagarajamani M.V.,
Hyderabad

The impact of PMUY in Jammu and Kashmir

Irfan Ahmad Sofi

Assistant Professor of Economics in IUST, Kashmir

Santosh Mehrotra

Taught economics at JNU, and is an independent economist

The International Energy Agency says about 681 million people in India rely on solid fuels for cooking. This poses series health and environmental concerns. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to promote the adoption of clean fuel by providing subsidised LPG connections to poor households. So far, the government has provided 10.3 crore LPG connections under this scheme. We studied the impact of the scheme in Jammu and Kashmir.

The study utilises primary survey data from 820 households across 48 villages in the districts of Kulgam and Rajouri, which are relatively disadvantaged. A systematic random sampling method was employed, with 24 villages selected from each district, ensuring coverage of all the tehsils within the districts. The number of villages chosen from each tehsil was proportional to its population size. The survey design ensures representation from different economic categories, including Above Poverty Line (APL), Below Poverty Line (BPL), and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households. Comprehensive questionnaires were administered to female household members who were responsible for cooking.

LPG connection adoption

We found that in the rural areas of J&K, 85.07% of the households have official LPG connections. Nearly 68% of these were procured under the PMUY. Only 4.41% of households in rural areas, particularly in hilly regions such as Rajouri (in Jammu), do not have access to LPG, while 10.53% rely on unofficial connections.

However, despite this substantial increase in LPG availability, traditional cooking methods remain pervasive. About 92% of the households still maintain traditional chulhas, and 85% of the households engage in fuel stacking, using both solid fuels and LPG. This pattern is reflective of cultural attachment to traditional cooking methods, as well as the problem of affordability, which limits exclusive reliance on LPG.

The average number of LPG cylinders consumed per household in the last six months is 3.56, which indicates moderate usage. In Kulgam, the PMUY beneficiary households reported a higher adoption rate (3.54 cylinders) than eligible non-PMUY consumer households (3.21). In Rajouri, the adoption rate among PMUY beneficiary households is lower than general consumer households. The reliance on solid fuels such as firewood, with an average consumption of 226 kilogrammes per household in six months, reflects the dual-use cooking system.

One of the primary objectives of PMUY is to alleviate the health burden on women by reducing their exposure to indoor smoke from traditional cooking fuels. The survey revealed significant health benefits for women in households that adopted LPG under the PMUY, in Kulgam. Among BPL households, the incidence of respiratory problems, such as coughing, chest infections, and headaches, showed a marked reduction. Non-PMUY beneficiary BPL households reported a 24% incidence of coughing during the one-month period immediately preceding the data collection, while PMUY beneficiaries saw a drop to 21%. The reduction is even more significant in AAY households, where non-beneficiaries reported a 13% incidence of coughing, but beneficiaries saw it drop to 10%. Similar trends were observed for headaches and chest infections.

Households with additional appliances such as rice cookers, and educated members, also experienced better health outcomes. For instance, PMUY beneficiaries with rice cookers reported a reduced incidence of coughing (20%) compared to non-beneficiaries. Households where the main cook had secondary or above education saw the incidence of chest infections drop to 4% among BPL households.

Barriers to exclusive LPG usage

However, certain barriers continue to hinder exclusive reliance on clean cooking fuel. The first is the lack of awareness about the health benefits of LPG. In the survey, 47% of the households were unaware of the health risks associated with solid fuel use. This is compounded by the fact that 64% of the households do not own a TV, and 33% of households reported that the female members responsible for cooking do not possess a mobile phone. These gaps in communication highlight the need for targeted awareness campaigns.

The second barrier is financial. The cost of refilling LPG cylinders remains a burden for many households. This often leads to fuel stacking, where households resort to cheaper but more harmful solid fuels. Fuel stacking remains prevalent in 85% of the households, underscoring the need for more comprehensive financial support to make LPG refills more affordable.

The study highlights the importance of awareness and access to modern appliances in promoting clean fuels. Households with greater awareness of health benefits of LPG reported higher LPG consumption (3.73 cylinders on average) and lower firewood consumption (216 kg) compared to those without such awareness. Also, households that did not perceive a taste difference between food cooked on LPG and traditional fuels were more likely to rely solely on LPG, with an average consumption of 4.27 cylinders. The availability of rice cookers correlates with a higher LPG usage (3.59 cylinders) as compared to households without these appliances.

Expanding the network of LPG distribution points in rural areas and extending financial support for refills could further increase clean fuel adoption.

Making promises but no plans

The Congress government is busy implementing programmes without thought

STATE OF PLAY

Serish Nanisetti
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The Congress rode to power in Telangana in December 2023 on the back of six guarantees and numerous other promises. Eleven months later, a few of the guarantees have been partially implemented, while some are still in the process of being implemented. However, there is a wide gap between planning and implementation and two examples illustrate this.

The first is the ongoing socioeconomic survey, which is part of the promise of conducting a caste survey. Many people have complained of a shortage of enumeration forms. Social activists claim that only Telugu and English forms are being used in the multilingual State. A similar exercise for collecting data about all the citizens in the State was conducted by the previous Telangana Rashtra Samithi government on August 19, 2014. At the time, the State was virtually shut down, and 4,00,00 government employees were deployed to collect details of citizens. However, the data disappeared into a black hole. A decade later, citizens are wary of sharing their economic and financial information once again.

Their concerns are not unfounded. In a sworn affidavit to the Telangana High Court in 2022, the government had stated that it had cancelled 18.6 lakh ration cards since 2014, citing "bogus" or "duplicate" cardholders as the reason. However, social activists argued that these deletions, which deprived many families of cheaper food grains, were based on flawed linkages in

the Aadhaar database. In April 2022, the Supreme Court slammed the State and ordered it to conduct a verification programme for all the ration cardholders. This has not yet been carried out.

Now, the people are unwilling to share their data with data collectors in many parts of the State. They say that they had already shared data under a programme called the Praja Palana for new ration cards.

Another significant project of the State government, aimed at revitalising the Musi River, has run into policy troubles. The 50-kilometre stretch of the Musi River in Hyderabad presents numerous challenges. Waste and industrial effluents are dumped into the river, sewage is discharged into the river, and there are numerous encroachments for the creation of parking bays and warehouses. In addition, there are slums in many areas.

Instead of addressing the systemic issues of pollution and large-scale encroachments, the government has focused on one slum located along the river. About 165 families were relocated from one area of the river to two-bedroom homes about two kilometres from the site. However, the relocation did little to gain the trust of the people or assuage their concerns.

On October 2, 2024, the district collector announced a ₹25,000 displacement allowance. But two days prior to this, the residents had already been relocated to their new dwellings. It was evident that there was no strategy in place.

A large-scale project such as this needed a proper rehabilitation policy in place, apart from a detailed project report, a solid plan for financing, and confidence-building measures. Instead, the government put up its plans on social media, showing the riverfront being transformed into a glass, chrome, and grassy wonderland with a string of bridges running across the river. Recently, the buffer zone of the river was increased from 30 metres to 50 metres on the advice of the Irrigation Department, which made more people wary of the project.

The cost of the project is another point of contention. A ballpark figure of ₹1,50,000 crore was floated. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced that it would be built entirely in the private-public partnership (PPP) model and the State would not incur any expense on it. But civil rights activists say the PPP model is exclusionary in nature. The area around the river is densely populated and some of the neighborhoods are poor. The area lacks parks and leisure spaces. They argue that a riverfront project built under a PPP model would be a ticketed affair, gentrifying the space and excluding the very people who live there.

It is time the Congress government gets its act together. Telangana needs socioeconomic survey data for examining its reservation policy. It also needs the Musi Riverfront Development Plan to rejuvenate the river. But the government must ensure that it has plans and policies in place before executing these and other promises.

Municipal corporations' tax revenue share rise in recent years

Corporations in the southern States — Karnataka, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu — are on top of the list in terms of own tax revenue generation

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

In FY24, municipal corporations in India are estimated to generate 50% of their revenue from their own taxes, fees, and user charges. A further 25% comes from revenue grants provided by the Central and State governments. The remaining portion comprises rental income, compensations, and investment income, according to a recent Reserve Bank of India (RBI) report.

The Report on Municipal Finances shows significant improvement since the first edition released two years ago. The latest report examines the fiscal position of 232 municipal corporations from 2019-20 to 2023-24 (Budget Estimates or BE), focusing on the theme 'Own Sources of Revenue Generation in Municipal Corporations: Opportunities and Challenges'. The scope of the report has been expanded to include more municipal corporations. It is further enriched by findings from a primary survey on property taxes.

Charts 1 and 2 compare the revenue sources of municipal corporations – own tax, non-tax, and transfers from the Centre/States – over two periods: the short term (FY24 compared to the year just before the pandemic) and the long term (FY24 compared to the year just before the implementation of GST). Transfers include revenue grants from the Finance Commission, State Finance Commission, State and Central government. In some cases, it may also include reimbursement for expenses and contribution towards schemes.

Short term: Chart 1 displays the components of revenue receipts for all municipal corporations in FY24 (BE) and FY20 (the year before the pandemic). As shown, the ability of municipal corporations to raise their own revenue through taxes, fees, and charges has improved in FY24 compared to FY20. Their dependence on Central and State government grants has decreased.

During this period, the share of revenue from own taxes increased from 27.3% to 30%, fees and user charges rose from 18.7% to 20.2%, while the share of revenue grants, contributions, and subsidies declined from 27.9% to 24.9%.

The share of compensations and rental incomes stayed the same (13% and 6% of the revenue receipts, respectively). Interest earned on loans and income from investments formed 1-2% of the overall revenue in both periods.

Long term: Chart 2 displays the components of revenue receipts for all municipal corporations between FY17 (the year before GST implementation) and FY24 (BE). Overall, in the post-GST period (from FY18 onwards), own tax revenue as a share of total revenue has declined for municipal corporations. Conversely, the share of transfers from Central and State governments has increased. In FY17, 43% of municipal corporations' revenue receipts came from their own tax revenue compared to only 30% in FY24. So, while there has been a short-term improvement in the revenue-raising capabilities of municipal corporations, the long-term decline in this potential has been substantial.

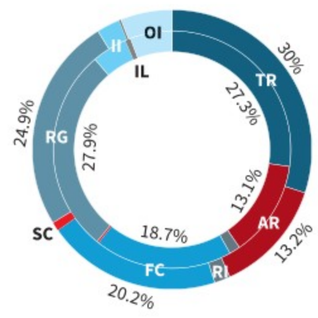
In FY24, own tax revenue which includes property tax, water tax, electricity tax, education tax, and other local taxes was highest in Karnataka (53.8%), followed by Telangana (50.3%), Tamil Nadu (44.3%), and Jharkhand (44.0%). Among major States, Rajasthan, Odisha, and Uttarakhand had the lowest ratios. **Chart 3** shows the State-wise split.

The quality of municipal corporations' expenditure is improving. The share of revenue expenditure in their total expenditure has declined from 43.9% in 2019-20 to 38.5% in 2023-24 (BE), with a corresponding increase in capital expenditure from 56.1% to 61.5% **(Chart 4).**

Income and expenditure statement

Charts were sourced from the Reserve Bank of India's 'Report on Municipal Finances'

Chart 1: Components of revenue receipts of all municipal corporations. The inner circle corresponds to figures for 2019-20 while the outer circle corresponds to 2023-24 (BE)



TR: Tax revenue
OI: Other income
SC: Sale and hire charges
II: Income from investment
IL: Interest earned on loans
FC: Fees and user charges
AR: Assigned revenues, compensation
RI: Rental income from properties
RG: Revenue grants, contribution and subsidies

Chart 2: Composition of revenue receipts of municipal corporations. Figures in %

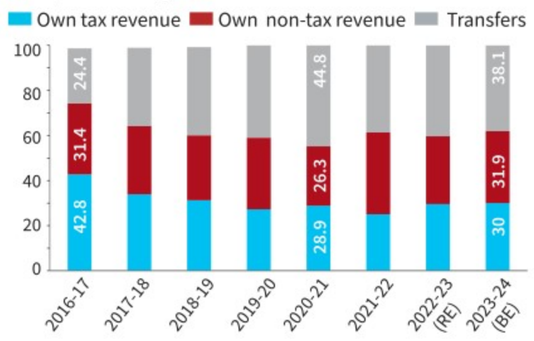


Chart 4: Revenue and capital expenditure of municipal corporations as a percentage of total expenditure

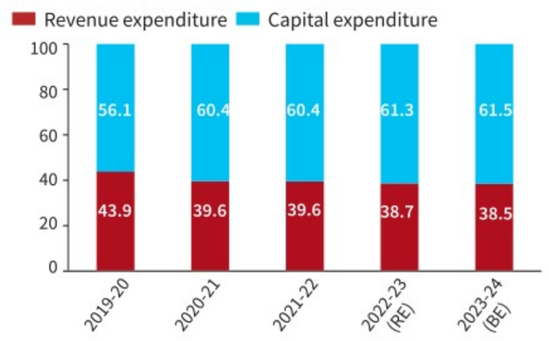
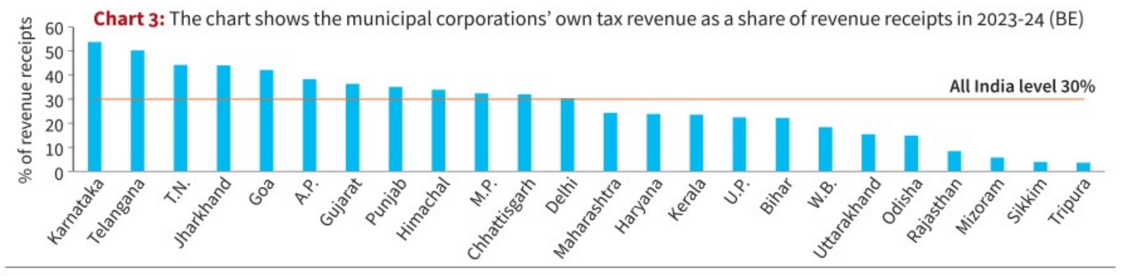


Chart 3: The chart shows the municipal corporations' own tax revenue as a share of revenue receipts in 2023-24 (BE)



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FROM THE NOVEMBER 13, 1974 ISSUE AS THERE WAS NO ISSUE ON NOVEMBER 14, 1974

Tamil Nadu omnibus tax increase held valid

New Delhi, Nov. 12: The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of the enhancement of Motor Vehicles Tax on "omnibuses" imposed by a Tamil Nadu Government notification dated September 20, 1971 from Rs. 30 per seat per quarter to Rs. 100 per seat per quarter.

Mr. Justice Mathew, who delivered the judgement of the Bench dismissing a batch of writ petitions filed by certain affected omnibus operators in Tamil Nadu, also held that the distinction made between "contract carriages" and "stage carriages" in the matter of levy of Motor Vehicles Tax did not offend Article 14 of the Constitution (dealing with equality before law, etc).

The Bench which included the Chief Justice Mr. Justice Ray and Mr. Justice Alagiriswami rejected a plea of the petitioners that the impugned notification was not a measure of taxation but a device to eliminate the competition of "omnibuses" (contract carriages) with the "stage carriages" run by the Government.

The Court said that, as the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, had authorised the Government to levy the tax, the question of motive with which the tax was imposed "is immaterial." "There can be no plea of a colourable exercise of power to tax if the Government had power to impose the tax and the fact that the imposition of the tax was for the purpose of eliminating competition would not detract from its validity."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 14, 1924

Wilts' centenary

The 2nd Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment (the Infantry garrisoning Bangalore) observed their centenary this morning by trooping the colour. An unusually large gathering turned up to watch the picturesque parade on the occasion. Those present include Mr. W.P. Barton, the Hon'ble the British Resident in Mysore and Mrs. W.P. Barton. The ceremony was gone through with great eclat and after receiving the salute, the Area Commander complimented the Battalion on their fine turn out, steadiness and general bearing.

From Page One

SC puts brakes on 'bulldozer culture'

The petitioners had complained that their properties were demolished by the State machinery without due process of law on the ground that they were accused of criminal offences. The petitions even claimed the demolitions had a communal tone. On September 17, the top court *suo motu* extended the ambit of the case and barred such demolitions across the country.

"The chilling sight of a bulldozer demolishing a building, when authorities have failed to follow the basic principles of natural justice and have acted without adhering to the principle of due process, reminds one of a lawless state of affairs, where might was right," the Bench said.

The latest directives would not be applicable in case of encroachment into public property or if the demolition was ordered by a court.

'Collective punishment'

Justice Gavai said the government could not transform itself into a judge to find an accused guilty without trial and deliver a "collective punishment" to him and his family by wrecking their home and their shared memories with a bulldozer. This would be a violation of the 'rule of law', which was a part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

The judge said destroying family homes, leaving entire families homeless, was nothing short of "anarchy". The executive actions of public officials must be consistent with maintaining public trust. "The greater the power to decide, the higher is the responsibility to be just and fair," Justice Gavai observed.

"If his spouse, children, parents live in the same house or co-own the same property, can they be penalised by demolishing the property without them even being involved in any crime? As is well known, a pious father may have a recalcitrant son and vice versa. Depriving innocent people of their right to life by removing shelter from their heads, in our considered view, would be wholly unconstitutional," Justice Gavai underscored. An accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law, the court reminded the States.

'Separation of powers'

The principle of 'separation of powers' gave the courts, not the State, the authority to decide if a person was guilty of a crime or not. The State cannot take excessive measures even against convicts. There should be institutional accountability if public officials violate the rights of an accused or a convict through arbitrary exercise of power, the court held.

The 95-page judgment said the burden was on the authorities to disprove in court the presumption that they did not demolish a structure to penalise the accused owner or occupant. "When a particular structure is chosen all of a sudden for demolition and the rest of the similarly situated structures in the vicinity are not even touched, mala fide may loom large," Justice Gavai observed.

The court said for an average citizen, the construction of a house was often the culmination of years of hard work. "A house is not just a property but embodies the collective hopes of a family or individuals for stability, security, and a future... It gives a sense of dignity and a sense of belonging. If this is to be taken away, then the authority must be satisfied that this is the only option available," Justice Gavai noted.

Jharkhand records over 66% turnout

The fate of 683 candidates was sealed when 1.37 crore voters cast their votes in the first phase in Jharkhand. Interesting contests in this phase include the constituencies of Seraikella, Ranchi, Jamshedpur West, Jaganathpur and Jamshedpur East. Former Chief Minister and BJP candidate Champai Soren is contesting from Seraikella, while Jamshedpur East will see a face-off between the Congress's Ajoy Kumar, who once served as the Superintendent of Police of Jamshedpur, and Purnima Das Sahu, daughter-in-law of former Jharkhand Chief Minister and current Odisha Governor Raghubar Das.

Among the Assembly segments, Seraikella-kharsawan district topped the list with 76.02% polling. Ranchi recorded the lowest at 62.64%.

IPS officer suspended

The Election Commission suspended a Rajasthan cadre IPS officer Kishan Sahay Meena for dereliction of duty. The official, posted in Jharkhand for electoral duty, has been charged with returning to Rajasthan without permission.

In the last Assembly polls in 2019, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha secured 30 seats, the BJP won 25. The JMM-led alliance, with the Congress and RJD, won a majority of 47 seats.

Most of the Assembly seats where bypolls are being held fell vacant after the sitting MLAs contested the recent Lok Sabha elections and won.

Trinamool worker killed

In West Bengal, the Chief Electoral Officer has sought a report on the killing of a Trinamool worker. The average voter turnout across six Assembly constituencies stood at 70.76%. The turnout in Taldangra was 75.2%, Haroa 76%, Medinipur 72.73%, Sitai 71.25%, Madarihat 65% and Naihati 64.38%.

In Rajasthan, the Khinwsar Assembly seat recorded the highest polling percentage of 75.62%, while in Madhya Pradesh, Vijaypur recorded 77.42%. In Bihar, Tarari saw a voter turnout of 50.2% while Imamganj saw a turnout of 51.38%.

Jamiat hails court verdict; victims seek compensation

Significant step towards safeguarding the rule of law and fundamental rights, say Jamiat leaders; calling it a 'half-victory,' the victims demand further action to ensure justice for those affected

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

Though the main petitioner, the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, termed the Supreme Court judgment against bulldozer demolitions "a historic verdict" which "set a template for the future", some of the victims, who were intervention petitioners in the case, expressed their disappointment and demanded compensation.

"The court has confirmed everything we have been saying. The apex court has stated that demolishing someone's house with a bulldozer is not a punishment but a crime. It has also clarified that the government cannot act as a judge; only the judiciary has the authority to determine what is legal or illegal. Since the beginning of the bulldozer actions, we have maintained that if someone commits a crime, punishment should not be meted out to their family members. The court has also echoed this in its ruling," said Arshad Madani, president of one of the factions of Jamiat.

> The court has confirmed everything we have been saying. It has stated that demolishing a house with a bulldozer is not a punishment but a crime
>
> **ARSHAD MADANI**
> Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind President

Mahmood Madani, who heads the other faction, said: "It is a significant step towards safeguarding the rule of law and the fundamental rights of citizens. It reminds us that the power to declare someone guilty lies solely with the judiciary, not the administration. This ruling is a victory for justice, and we hope it will serve as a lesson to all authorities."

However, Rashid Khan of Udaipur and Mohammed Hussain of Ratlam, victims of the so-called bulldozer action, expressed dissatisfaction. They want compensation to rebuild their houses and punishment for those responsible. Mr. Khan and Mr. Hussain were helped in their legal struggle by the Association for Protection of Civil Rights, whose Jaipur-based representative told *The Hindu*, "We are happy with the victory. But it is a job half done. We will fight for compensation."

"It is an incomplete victory. Nobody is ready to give me a house on rent," Mr. Hussain told *The Hindu*. "We had set great hopes with the court. Now the court has declared demolitions illegal, but it has not thought of giving compensation to those who have suffered. At the time of demolition, the authorities did not give me even a day to pick up my stuff but when it comes to compensation for the family, I have got nothing after months-long struggle." he says.

Mr. Khan's house was demolished in Udaipur after the son of his tenant was accused of stabbing a Hindu classmate. "I am happy with the judgment, but it seems like a half-victory. How do I gather money to rebuild my house when there is no compensation?," rues Mr. Khan.

'Thankful to SC'

Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav said, "From today onwards, their bulldozer will remain parked in the garage forever, now no poor person's house will be demolished. I am thankful to the court for its decision".

Try to stand on your own legs, court tells Ajit Pawar faction

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Bench also asked it to circulate message telling members not to use pictures of Sharad Pawar

The Supreme Court on Wednesday advised the Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) to try standing on its own legs and not lean on the influence of patriarch Sharad Pawar with whom it broke away citing "ideological differences".

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan suggested that both Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar factions focus on the Assembly election battlefield rather than doing the rounds of the courts.

"Tell your party functionaries that they will not use old or new video clips or use the photographs of Sharad Pawar with whom your party is having ideological differences. You try to stand on your legs," Justice Kant addressed senior advocate Balbir Singh, appearing for the Ajit Pawar-led faction.

The Bench asked the Ajit Pawar camp to circulate an online message among its leaders, party workers and representatives against using the pictures or video/audio clips of Sharad Pawar, whether old or new.

"People of India are very intelligent and they have a fair idea about who Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar are. They cannot be fooled so easily," Justice Kant told senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Sharad Pawar.

The top court listed the matter for hearing on Tuesday.

Polling for 288 Assembly seats in Maharashtra will be held on November 20 and the counting of votes will take place on November 23.

The rival factions have publicly exchanged barbs in the Supreme Court as the Assembly election draws near.

Additional Central forces rushed to Manipur; abducted women, children remain untraced

Vijaita Singh
Rahul Karmakar
NEW DELHI/GUWAHATI

The Union Home Ministry deployed 20 additional companies of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), comprising nearly 2,000 personnel, in Manipur amid rising tensions on Wednesday.

More than 48 hours on, the three women and three children who are believed to have been abducted from Jiribam district by armed miscreants are yet to be rescued or traced, a senior government official said, adding that the police and security forces had launched combing operations.

A total shutdown was observed in Imphal to protest against the abductions and the killing of two elderly persons on November 11 who went missing during an exchange of fire between armed miscreants and personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and State police in the vicinity of the Borobekra police station in Jiribam. Those abducted include three women aged 25, 31, and 66, two children aged 10 and two, and an eight-month-old infant.

Also on Wednesday, around 6 a.m., a goods-laden truck was torched on National Highway 37 in the Naga-dominated Tamenglong district. The truck was *en route* to Noney district. The Rongmei Naga Students' Organisation, accusing "Kuki extremists" of setting the truck on fire, announced a "total boycott" of all supplies to the Kuki-Zo people in these two districts.

With the fresh deployment, the number of CAPF personnel deployed stands at approximately 22,000, or 218 companies. Each company comprises 80-120 personnel.

According to a Ministry communique, as many as 15 companies of the CRPF were being pulled out from Assam and five companies of the Border Security Force were being withdrawn from Tripura to "maintain law and order" in Manipur. The Ministry said 218 companies of the CAPFs shall be available with the Manipur government till November 30. The official said the extra forces will be deployed in all the vulnerable areas such as Kangpokpi, Churachandpur, and Jiribam, and the buffer zones between valley and hill districts. The official said that Kuki-Zo civil society groups have denied any knowledge about the abductions.

Taking a hit: The CRPF vehicle that came under attack in Jiribam on November 11. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The 10 armed militants who were killed in "retaliatory fire" after the CRPF post and the police station came under attack around 2.30 p.m. on November 11 were identified and a post-mortem examination was conducted on six bodies at Silchar Medical College in Assam. The deceased belonged to Pherzawl and Churachandpur districts. The police questioned their presence in Jiribam, which is several kilometers away.

Kuki-Zo bodies said those killed were village volunteers and alleged that the post-mortem of the remaining four bodies was stopped on Wednesday at the insistence of the Manipur Police.

However, Assam Police denied the allegations. A senior Assam police officer said the autopsy was halted due to "procedural delays" and will be resumed in daylight on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the post-mortem report of a 31-year tribal woman who was burnt to death at her home in Zairawn village in Jiribam on November 7 said "the skull was burnt and separated in pieces" and parts of upper and lower limbs as well as the "facial structure" were missing.

It said that the woman died "due to shock as a result of third-degree mixed flame antemortem burns which covered 99% of total body surface area". Rape could not be established as the body was charred beyond recognition and samples could not be taken. The police had registered a case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and various Sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

At least 14 people have been killed since November 7.

Youth 'hooked to radical content' detained

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

A local youth, "hooked to radical content" and "about to join militancy", was detained in Kulgam of south Kashmir on Wednesday, while the property of the family of an accused in the killing of non-locals was attached in Srinagar.

According to the J&K Police's special cell, Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK), Bhat Navidul Ali was "misusing social media for radical propaganda aimed at instigating common people against the Government of India and also glamourising terrorism in J&K".

On receipt of the information, the police said, a special team of the CIK apprehended Ali for questioning.

Meanwhile, in Zaldagar, the National Investigation Agency attached the property of Manzoor Ahmad Langoo. Langoo's son, Adil Manzoor Langoo, was allegedly linked to the killing of two non-local individuals in February 2024.

Modi accuses Soren-led government of aiding 'infiltrators' in Jharkhand

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday targeted the Hemant Soren government in Jharkhand over alleged illegal infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals in the State.

He said tribal daughters were cheated in the name of marriage and their land was being snatched. He also accused the Congress of dividing the country in the name of a caste census.

Sharing his experience in Jharkhand, Mr. Modi said wherever he went in the past few days, the biggest concern was infiltration.

"Statistics show that the number of tribal people in the Santhal region has almost halved. What will happen if the number continues to decrease like this? Your water, forests, and land will be taken over by others," Mr. Modi said in the Sarath constituency.

Eyes on victory: Narendra Modi waves to the gathering during a public meeting at Sarath in Deoghar, on Wednesday. ANI

He said the Santhal region would create electoral history this time and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-Congress front was sure to be wiped out. He said during the JMM-Congress government, every effort was made to turn the "infiltrators into permanent residents". "JMM and Congress have snatched your water, forests, and land; they have stolen your sand and coal. They stole your children's papers and your government jobs and gave them to their 'favourite people'. They ruined futures of your children for their own future," he alleged.

He charged the Soren government with preparing all required "documents for the infiltrators overnight".

"Tribal daughters were cheated in the name of marriage and their land was snatched. These intruders snatched away your employment and your bread. The JMM government told the court that there was no infiltration in Jharkhand," he said.

Mr. Modi said the Congress wanted to end "SC/ST/Other Backward Class reservation".

'Zero power bills'

"Modi is going to make your electricity bill 'zero'. We will give ₹75,000 to ₹80,000 to every household for installing solar panels. The electricity they generate will leave households with zero power bills and when there is surplus electricity, the government will buy it," Mr. Modi said.

Food prices rising due to failed policies of Modi govt.: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi over inflation, the Congress on Wednesday said that tomatoes, onions, and potatoes (TOP) had disappeared from the common man's plate because of the "failure" of his policies.

Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh shared on X an old video of Mr. Modi speaking on the importance of 'TOP' in Indian households.

"The prices of the things that you said would be given top priority are skyrocketing. Because of this, the inflation rate of vegetables has reached 42%. The inflation rate of tomatoes is 161.3%, of potatoes is 64.9% and onion is 51.8%," Mr. Ramesh said.

Jairam Ramesh

His comments came a day after data showed that a 10.9% increase in food prices had pushed retail inflation to a 14-month high of 6.2% in October.

"Food inflation is now surging to double digits. All this is happening with sluggish consumption, lukewarm investment, stagnant real wages, and widespread unemployment," Mr. Ramesh said.

ELECTIONS 2024

BJP files plaint against Cong. for 'code violation'

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday accused the Congress of releasing its election manifesto during the 48-hour "silence" period ahead of the Assembly election in Jharkhand, in violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

At a press conference, BJP MP Sambit Patra said the Congress released its manifesto a day ahead of the first phase of election in the State. He said the BJP had lodged a complaint with the Election Commission seeking action in this regard.

Stating that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi never took the Election Commission seriously and always spoke against it, Mr. Patra said that the Congress wanted to give 4% reservation to Muslim organisations and contractors in public tenders.

BJP MP Sambit Patra during a press conference at party headquarters in Delhi.

BJP is a govt. of thieves, says Kharge

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday called the Mahayuti alliance a "government of thieves", and said the election is an opportunity to defeat it. He reiterated that the BJP's "*Batenge to Katenge*" slogan was "divisive".

For the past few days, Mr. Kharge locked horns with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over his slogan "*Batenge toh katenge*" (divided we perish). The BJP had borrowed the slogans for the Maharashtra Assembly election from the Uttar Pradesh election campaign to prevent caste-based voting and consolidate Hindu votes. Mr. Kharge accused him of spreading hatred among the people. Mr. Adityanath advised him not to get angry with him but with the razakars of Nizam of Marathwada.

> Amit Shah has accused me of stalling development... I stayed flight of projects to Gujarat. I will ban the movement of projects (if voted to power)
>
> **UDDHAV THACKERAY**
> Shiv Sena (UBT) chief

'Congress has made Karnataka bankrupt'

Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha chief and BJP MP, Tejasvi Surya on Wednesday made verbal attacks on the Opposition. The Congress party has only pushed Karnataka towards the brink of bankruptcy and has brought financial instability to the State, he said.

> The politics of Cong. runs on the basis of deception. They say that after the formation of Mahayuti govt., investment in the State has reduced
>
> **AMIT SHAH**
> Union Minister

Jairam Mahto while campaigning in the Dumri Assembly constituency. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Jairam Mahto's JLKM is the free agent in Jharkhand

Amit Bhelari
DUMRI (JHARKHAND)

Unlike other politicians, he prefers wearing jeans and T-shirt and gives speeches standing on the bonnet of the car, while large crowds gather to listen to him and his fans call him "Tiger".

Jairam Mahto, popularly known as Jairam Tiger Mahto, is a young leader contesting the Assembly election in Jharkhand and his candidature has made the mainstream political parties to sit up and take notice.

Mr. Mahto has carved out an identity in the region by raising local issues, particularly the demand to implement the 1932 *Khatiyan* (land settlement) policy that deals with the "Jharkhandi identity" with land records of 1932 becoming the criterion to verify the State's domicile and employment policy.

He first came into the limelight in 2022 for launching a movement in the State after languages considered to be from outside Jharkhand, such as Bhojpuri, Magahi and Angika, were included in the list of regional languages for State-level examinations in the 11 districts of the State.

Ahead of the Assembly election, he got the go-ahead from the Election Commission and his political party, Jharkhand Loktantrik Krantikari Morcha (JLKM), was registered. Earlier, he used to lead an outfit called Jharkhandi Bhasha Khatiyan Sangharsh Samiti (JBKSS). He is contesting the election from Dumri and Bermo. In Dumri, the main fight is between Baby Devi of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU) leader Yashoda Devi, whereas in Bermo, the contest is between Ravindra Pandey of the BJP and Congress candidate Kumar Jai Mangal.

"He is the real tiger of Jharkhand who fights for youth and local issues. After a long time, Jharkhand has got a dynamic young leader who has the calibre to lead the State," said Vivek Mahto, one of his supporters.

The 30-year-old youth leader had earlier contested his maiden election and fielded eight candidates in the Lok Sabha election held this summer.

In Dumri, the voters said that Mr. Mahto is giving a tough fight to other candidates.

He hails from the Kurmi (Mahtos) community, which makes up 22% of the total population, the largest chunk after tribal people, and plays a decisive role in at least 35 seats out of total 81 Assembly seats in Jharkhand.

CARTOONSCAPE | SOUMYADIP SINHA

In Vidarbha, Maharashtra's beating heart, the electoral play is national

With its diverse political and socio-economic landscape, the electoral outcome in this Central Indian region is seen as a potential game-changer in State politics; BJP, Congress is locked in a fierce battle here with leaders from the top echelons of both the parties making frequent campaign visits

NEWS ANALYSIS

Abhinay Deshpande
YAVATMAL

With 62 Assembly constituencies, Vidarbha, a region in central India marked by a striking mix of contrasting elements, plays a decisive role in Maharashtra's politics. Stretching from the Naxal-affected area of Gadchiroli bordering the Abujhmad forest in Chhattisgarh to Nagpur, where the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the ideological backbone of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has its headquarters, it encompasses the pulse of the State's socio-political dynamics. It is also home to Dikshabhoomi, where B.R. Ambedkar embraced Buddhism in 1956, a site of immense historical significance to his followers, and the epicentre of an ongoing agrarian crisis that has plagued Maharashtra's cotton belt.

With its diverse political and socio-economic landscape, Vidarbha will have an electoral outcome that is seen as a potential game-changer in State politics.

Despite being home to the RSS, the region has historically been a Congress bastion, until it was breached by the BJP a decade ago. Each constituency has its own caste dynamics, with the Kunbi community holding a substantial sway, shaping electoral outcomes in ways that national parties must heed.

Several prominent leaders from the region, including the Congress's State chief Nana Patole (Sakoli), his BJP counterpart, Chandrashekar Bawankule (Kamthi), Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis (Nagpur South West), and the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Vijay Wadettiwar (Brahmapuri), are all campaigning fiercely to bolster their parties' influence on their home turf.

"Vidarbha has always been a key battleground in Maharashtra's elections, and this time, it is more critical than ever. The region holds the key to the fate of both the BJP and Congress," Devendra Gawande, resident editor, *Loksatta*, Nagpur, said.

In the current Assembly race, 36 of the 76 seats where the BJP and Congress are head-to-head are in Vidarbha. This intense competition is underscored by the BJP fielding the most candidates here, with 47, while the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition seeks to counter this push and regain its footing.

Its importance in the poll strategies of both national parties is evident from the frequent visits made to the region by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi.

While Mr. Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah held a series of public events across Vidarbha, Mr. Gandhi launched his poll campaign in Nagpur, participating in a *Samvidhan Sammelan* (conference on the Constitution), in addition to a battery of political rallies.

During these visits, the leaders focused on issues central to the region, including agriculture, and issues concerning Other Backward Classes (OBC), tribal people and others.

In the Lok Sabha election, the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance struggled in Vidarbha, winning only three out of 10 seats – a shortfall that raised questions about its stronghold. Observers now view Vidarbha as the bellwether that could either cement or crack the BJP's dominance.

"Nagpur has traditionally been a Congress stronghold, but over time, the BJP has built a strong base here, particularly by addressing issues such as farmers' distress and leveraging its influence through the RSS," Mr. Gawande said. He believes the road to the corridors of power in Mumbai passes through Vidarbha. "Historically, the party that wins Vidarbha goes on to form the government in Maharashtra. This is precisely why top leaders from all parties are actively campaigning here," he said.

According to Mr. Gawande, regional parties, including both factions of the Shiv Sena and the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), have a relatively limited presence in Vidarbha when compared with other regions, leading to a direct face-off between the Congress and the BJP in most constituencies.

"Recently, Amit Shah said that every seat they win here is one Congress loses, which the BJP views as a victory. Their focus is on defeating Congress in Vidarbha to strengthen their base, and the Congress has a similar goal," he added.

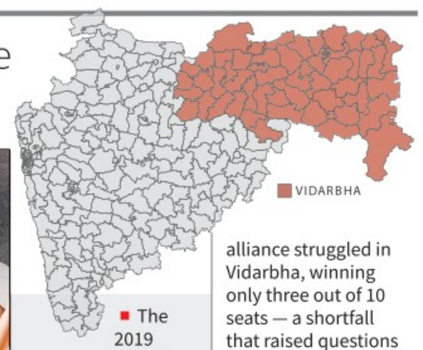
In the 2014 Assembly election, the BJP made a breakthrough, securing 44 of the 62 constituencies, leaving the Congress with a mere 10 seats. However, the 2019 polls saw a slight reversal, with the BJP's tally dipping to 29 and the Congress managing to secure 15. This shift, while small, indicated that the Congress had regained some ground in this region, observers believe.

The Congress chief, Mr. Patole has ruffled some feathers within his own party and among allies in the Shiv Sena (UBT) due to his distinctive style of leadership. While campaigning in Yavatmal, a district plagued by one of the highest rates of farmer suicides in the State, he said: "Vidarbha is where our roots lie, and I will ensure that the BJP is uprooted."

Maharashtra's political pulse

A look at recent Assembly and Lok Sabha election results in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra

High hopes: Devendra Fadnavis campaigns in the Vidarbha region. PTI



- In the 2014 Assembly election, the BJP made a breakthrough, securing 44 of the 62 constituencies in Vidarbha, leaving the Congress with a mere 10 seats
- The 2019 Assembly polls saw a slight reversal, with the BJP's tally dipping to 29 and the Congress managing to secure 15 seats
- In the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance struggled in Vidarbha, winning only three out of 10 seats — a shortfall that raised questions about its stronghold
- Another challenge facing the parties in Vidarbha in the upcoming polls is the large number of rebel candidates. The MVA alliance has 28 rebels in the region, while the Mahayuti has 19

Family reunion and discord animate Maratha vs OBC battle in Marathwada's Parli

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

The Parli constituency in Marathwada is witnessing a high-stakes electoral battle with the Nationalist Congress Party factions led by Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar vying for dominance. The intense discord marks a significant shift from the previous feud between the Munde cousins to a Maratha vs OBC dynamics.

Parli has traditionally seen a head-to-head electoral fight between NCP leader Dhananjay Munde and his cousin and BJP leader Pankaja Munde. In the 2019 election, the undivided NCP managed to claim the seat from the BJP, which Ms. Pankaja won in 2014. The Maratha vs OBC factor did not appear when the Munde family was winning.

Parli has been the Munde family bastion since the 1990s when it was won by the late Gopinath Munde of the BJP. After Gopinath Munde declared Ms. Pankaja his political heir, Mr. Dhananjay joined the NCP.

In the 2024 Assembly election, unlike the previous two elections, Mr. Dhananjay is putting up a united fight with Ms. Pankaja, ending the rivalry and looking forward to the battle with Mr. Sharad Pawar's Maratha candidate Rajesaheb Deshmukh.

New tone: BJP leader Pankaja Munde, and her cousin and Maharashtra Minister Dhananjay Munde in Jalna district. FILE PHOTO

Parli has been a Munde family bastion since the 1990s when it was won by the late Gopinath Munde

Party workers upset

However, the united front of cousins, which is seen as a move to prevent the division of OBC votes, has upset party workers.

Mr. Dhananjay said, "Sharad Pawar always does caste politics, be it the Lok Sabha or Assembly election. We are fighting elections completely on the work we have done here for the past 25 years. Besides, the Maratha factor won't work this time. During the Lok Sabha reservation issue, the polarisation of caste and religion was at the peak, that is not likely to happen now."

A former District Congress president, Mr. Deshmukh hails from the nearby taluka of Ambejogai, which makes him an "outsider", but he was elected president of the zilla parishad circle in the Parli constituency. "This part includes 60 Maratha-dominant villages, giving an edge to Mr. Deshmukh," said a party worker. Besides, he has ties with Maratha activist Manoj Jarange-Patil, who has been leading the Maratha reservation movement.

Ajit Pawar's claim of Adani's presence at a high-level meeting sparks a firestorm

The Hindu Bureau
NAGPUR

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's disclosure that billionaire-industrialist Gautam Adani was present at a high-level meeting in 2019, involving leaders from the then Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has intensified the Opposition's accusations of undue influence by Mr. Adani within the Narendra Modi government. The revelation has placed the ruling coalition in Maharashtra in a tight spot.

In an interview with a news portal, Mr. Ajit Pawar, who is also the national president of the NCP, recounted his brief 2019 alliance with the BJP, which was ultimately shortlived as he returned to the NCP. He named the high-profile attendees of the meeting, which included Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Mr. Adani, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, and others. "Everybody knows where the meeting took place... Amit Shah, Gautam Adani, Praful Patel, Devendra Fadnavis, Ajit Pawar, and Pawar *saheb* [Sharad Pawar] were there," Mr. Ajit Pawar said.

Ajit Pawar

The Opposition quickly seized upon Mr. Adani's alleged presence, with Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi expressing concern. She posted on X, "As per an interview given to a digital platform by a senior minister in the Cabinet, Gautam Adani has sat through in meetings to decide how to get BJP to power in Maharashtra by trying to fix unlikely alliances. It raises some serious questions: Is he a BJP authorised negotiator? Has he been given the responsibility to fix alliances? Why is a businessman so keenly and closely working to bring BJP to power at any cost in Maharashtra?"

Questions locus standi

Mumbai Congress president Varsha Gaikwad added her voice to the criticism, questioning Mr. Adani's *locus standi* in government formation matters. In a post on X, she said, "What was Gautam Adani's *locus standi*? Why was he sitting in meetings regarding the formation of the government? I reiterate, the MVA govt was destabilised only for Adani, so that he could get Dharavi and other projects he wanted. This is why we say, this is not Maharashtra *sarkar* but Adani *sarkar*. Now, the truth is there for everyone to see."

Ms. Gaikwad's statement underscores the Opposition's narrative that the fall of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government benefited Mr. Adani's business ventures in Maharashtra, including the redevelopment of Dharavi.

Asked about the meeting, Baramati MP and Mr. Sharad Pawar's daughter, Supriya Sule, stated she had no knowledge of such a gathering. "Let me be very clear that I have absolutely no knowledge of any such meeting of the attendees which he [Ajit Pawar] has mentioned in the interview," she said.

The ruling coalition has not yet responded to the allegations raised by Mr. Ajit Pawar.

INBRIEF

Defence Space Agency conducts tabletop exercise

The tri-service Defence Space Agency has conducted its maiden tabletop Exercise 'Antariksha Abhyas 2024' aimed at bolstering the strategic readiness of the Indian armed forces in the domain of space warfare. The three-day exercise concluded on Wednesday. "Key components of the exercise included focused discussions on emerging space technologies, space situational awareness and India's space programmes. The discussions highlighted the importance of monitoring and protecting critical assets and maintaining situational awareness in the increasingly contested space environment," a Defence Ministry statement said.

New rest norms for pilots will reduce their salary: Air India

Implementation of the proposed norms on duty and rest timings for pilots will hurt the interests of the cockpit crew, Air India has informed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), in a meeting on Wednesday. Pilots have rejected the claim. "Shouldn't safety be paramount? How can the commercial interests of the airline supersede safety at a time of mounting pilot fatigue?" Captain C.S. Randhawa, president, Federation of Indian Pilots, said. The meeting was part of the mediation exercise ordered by the Delhi High Court on October 24. The next date of hearing on the matter is December 6. There was another meeting scheduled by the DGCA earlier, but no one from Air India attended it.

Flights to Bali cancelled after volcanic eruption

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

IndiGo and Air India on Wednesday cancelled their flights to Bali due to ash clouds from a volcanic eruption in the Indonesian island.

The Mount Lewotobi Laki Laki volcano located on a remote island in East Nusa Tenggara province erupted earlier this month and has resulted in ash clouds. These clouds could pose a threat to flight operations and as a result, many airlines have cancelled their services to Bali.

IndiGo and Air India operate daily flights to Bali from Bengaluru and Delhi, respectively.

Air India said its flights from Delhi to Bali and return (AI 2145 and AI 2146 respectively), scheduled to operate on Wednesday, have been cancelled due to unfavourable weather caused by the recent volcanic eruption.

Congress leader Pawan Khera tagged Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu in a post on X asking for help for passengers stuck in Bali.

In response, Mr. Naidu said the Ministry was working with Air India on the issue and would ensure the safety and convenience of the passengers.

New guidelines ask coaching centres not to make tall claims

They should not promise guaranteed selection or promotions; students' names and photos cannot be published without their written consent

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Consumer Affairs Ministry has issued guidelines prohibiting coaching institutes from publishing misleading advertisements that make false claims on courses offered, faculty qualifications, fees and refunds.

Union Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare told presspersons here on Wednesday that she had written to the Personnel Affairs Ministry against officers endorsing coaching centres after being selected to the civil services.

Ms. Khare said the Ministry had issued notices to 45 coaching centres and had imposed penalties of ₹54.6 lakh on 18 of them for misleading advertisements. The Guidelines for Prevention of Misleading Advertisement in Coaching Sector, 2024 aimed to safeguard students and the public from deceptive marketing practices.

"These guidelines are drafted in the wake of growing concerns about false/misleading claims, exaggerated success rates, and unfair contracts that coaching institutes often impose on students. Such practices have been found to mislead students, influencing their decisions by concealing important information, giving false guarantee, etc.," she said.

Bringing order: The Centre has drafted the guidelines after concerns about misleading claims. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The guidelines prohibit claims of assured admissions, high exam scores, guaranteed selections or promotions. "Misleading representations about the quality or standard of their services are strictly prohibited," the guidelines said.

The coaching centres should not use students' names, photos, or testimonials in advertisements without their written consent. "This provision is intended to reduce the pressure students face when enrolling, as they are often pushed into signing such agreements," she said.

Coaching centres will have to disclose the name, rank, and course details alongside the student's photo in an advertisement. "Whether the course was paid for by the student too must be clearly stated. Any disclaimers will need to be prominently displayed, with the same font size as other important details, ensuring that consumers are not misled by fine print," the guidelines said.

Revise UPSC creamy layer limit, say MPs at House panel meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Welfare of Other Backward Classes have raised questions on why the government has not revised the "creamy layer" ceiling for OBC candidates appearing for the UPSC exam for the past seven years. They said that every year, several candidates were blocked from joining the civil services despite clearing the exam.

The MPs raised the issue when officials of the Union Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry were briefing them on the subject of implementation of various measures for OBC welfare.

Sources said the issue drew a lively debate, with Congress MP Manickam Tagore, T.R. Baalu of the DMK, Ramashankar Rajbhar of the Samajwadi Party and Sakshi Maharaj of the the BJP finding common cause with the issue. The BJP MP, sources said, suggested that the "creamy layer" criterion should be entirely done away with.

To qualify for the 27% OBC reservation in the UPSC, candidates must be in the non-creamy layer category, which means their annual family income should be ₹8 lakh or less in the past three financial years. This income ceiling was fixed in 2017.

> It's been seven years with no adjustment to account for inflation and changing economic realities.
>
> **MANICKAM TAGORE**
> Congress MP

In 2023, a report by the parliamentary panel had pointed out the need to revise the limit.

In a post on X on Wednesday, Mr. Tagore said, "Why has Modi*ji* not raised the creamy layer income ceiling for OBCs since 2017? It's been seven years with no adjustment to account for inflation and changing economic realities. Who is betraying OBCs?" He shared the relevant portion of the panel's earlier report.

Mr. Tagore had earlier written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September to draw attention to the fact that many successful candidates were facing significant obstacles related to the verification of their OBC non-creamy layer status, which is preventing them from joining their designated services.

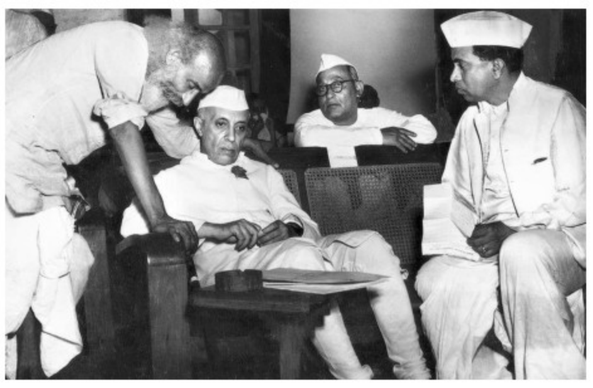
Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund to launch 'Nehru Archive' next year

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Less-known published and unpublished works of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, all of his letters to the Chief Ministers of various States and his speeches will be part of a cutting-edge multimedia digital archive to be launched by the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund (JNMF) in a year from now.

The Nehru Archive will go online on his birth anniversary on November 14, 2025. "I am sure that this archive will make Nehru more accessible to successive generations who need to be informed of his contributions towards the making of modern India and the world," JNMF Vice-Chairperson Karan Singh said.

The archive will provide a glimpse of the making of new India from the desk of the first Prime Minister, Professor Madhavan K. Palat, JNMF secretary, said.



Intellectual icon: Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru with, left, Congress president Purushottam Das Tandon in 1951. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Dynamic source

"We aim to make the archive as comprehensive as possible, open-ended and dynamic, constantly updated with newer archival sources as and when they become available. It should be the single-most important source for research on Jawaharlal Nehru," he said.

All 100 volumes of *The Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, his letters to the Chief Ministers from 1947 to 1964, and books published by Nehru, including *Letters from a Father to His Daughter*, *Glimpses of World History*, *An Autobiography*, *The Unity of India*, *The Discovery of India*, *and A Bunch of Old Letters*, his speeches in original from 1917 to 1964, writings on the former Prime Minister by his contemporaries, and material on Nehru from global archives would all be part of the new dossier that is being created on the lines of the U.S.-based Wilson Center.

Asked whether this was an attempt to counter some of the "false narratives" about Nehru, Jairam Ramesh, senior Congress leader and a trustee of the JNMF, said this was not a political exercise but an intellectual and historical one.

The JNMF was established in 1964 through a Deed of Declaration of Trust. It has, at present, 14 trustees, and is headed by Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi.

Inaugural Indian Ocean Dialogue between U.S., India to be held today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Deepening the ongoing cooperation over the Indian Ocean Region, India and the U.S. are set to hold the inaugural U.S.-India Indian Ocean Dialogue on Thursday. U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and Principal Deputy National Security Adviser Jon Finer will take part in the event virtually.

They were originally scheduled to travel to New Delhi on November 13-14 but had to change plans due to "flight issues".

The two sides will "discuss measures to promote security and prosperity throughout the Indo-Pacific region," the U.S. State Department spokesperson said in a statement.

Kurt Campbell

The Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) Intersessional to further expand cooperation between the two countries on technological innovation and production is also scheduled to be held, the statement added.

In an update on Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy spokesperson added that "due to flight issues", Mr. Campbell and Mr. Finer will have meetings virtually with Indian counterparts. The dialogue comes just after the U.S. presidential elections in which former President Donald Trump secured a decisive victory, and the transition is now under way.

The India-U.S. cooperation over the Indo-Pacific goes back several years. In January 2015, during the visit of President Barack Obama to India as Chief Guest for the Republic Day parade, both sides had issued their Joint Strategic Vision for the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean Region.

In addition to the bilateral cooperation, there is significant regional and multilateral cooperation. The Quad grouping, comprising India, Australia, Japan and the U.S., is focused on the IOR and has announced the Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness initiative, as a global good for the entire region.

'India, Saudi defence cooperation expanding'

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The defence partnership between India and Saudi Arabia has witnessed several "firsts" in the past few years, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Wednesday, noting that the cooperation had "now expanded in the field of defence industry and exports as well".

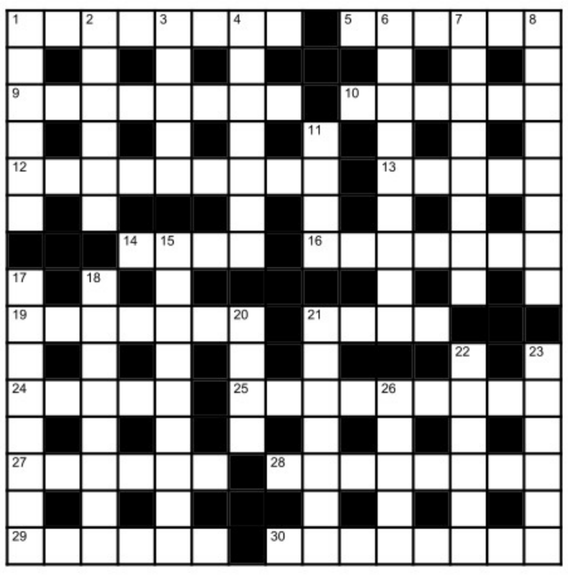
During a meeting, both sides discussed avenues to strengthen the Strategic Partnership between India and Saudi Arabia in areas including trade, investment, energy, defence, security, culture, and consular matters, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement. "They also exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest," the statement added.

TH CROSSWORD + 14330

(set by KrisKross)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Film about sorcery - almost like "Exorsist"? (8)
5 One inclined to become a leading surgeon? (6)
9 Erudite one leaves, confused about nucleus of an isotope (8)
10 Batsman's opening in a cricket match under most favourable circumstances (2,4)
12 Great enthusiasm to gobble round pies (5-4)
13 A dry, mostly cold storage space (5)
14 Ill, pricked by tip of rusty nail (4)
16 That man's wrong to steal a coarse fabric (7)
19 Bake the soil to make primitive tools (7)
21 Farewell, great industrialist! (2-2)
24 Rotten case of agricultural waste (5)
25 Always looking for a fairytale ending? (4,5)
27 Seduce footloose husband on the rebound (6)
28 Champion shortly drinking a liqueur with egg base (8)
29 Name changed to drop first letter, as prompted (6)
30 Churchman angry after consuming rum? Never! (8)

Down

1 Resentment about party member doing field work? (3-3)
2 Fly in South Indian dish (6)
3 Essentially simple attempt to make a fold (5)
4 After bit of Lamaze, dare to exercise in tight dress (7)
6 How people may travel across Europe, ignoring capital of Italy - it is on the way (2,7)
7 Sensational articles mislead, for the most part (8)
8 Novel without sex about to be withdrawn (8)
11 Network trouble, according to the drunk (4)
15 Afterwards, rebellious India had to fight back (9)
17 Tuned one model instrument (8)
18 Did some farming, with no time to collect cream? Unfortunate (3-5)
20 Killed a large number (4)
21 Altered loose pedal (7)
22 Faster bats attack from air (6)
23 Ground suitable for all in America (6)
26 A lady's complete by herself (5)

SUDOKU

	6	8		1	5	4		9
		9						
		5			6	7		
				5			7	
7			6		1			8
	2			8				
		7	2			6		
						1		
9		6	1	7		5	8	

No.SS6339 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	5	6	1	4	7	2	8	3
4	7	3	2	8	9	5	1	6
2	1	8	3	5	6	4	7	9
6	3	4	5	7	1	9	2	8
5	8	7	4	9	2	6	3	1
1	9	2	6	3	8	7	5	4
7	2	9	8	1	4	3	6	5
8	6	5	9	2	3	1	4	7
3	4	1	7	6	5	8	9	2

FAITH

Bharata, his Paduka regency

The Ramayana guides devotees on how to tread the path of virtue and one of the best guidelines is shown by Bharata. The prince, a mirror image of Rama and His high qualities, held on to dharma despite numerous challenges, said Damal S. Ramakrishnan.

When brought up to speed on the events leading up to Rama's banishment for 14 years and his father's demise, Bharata, on completion of Dasaratha's last rites, proceeded to the forest to persuade Rama to return and rule Ayodhya.

Watching their arrival from the banks of the Ganga, Guha was initially apprehensive that Bharata had come to harm his beloved Rama. However, upon realising Bharata's true intention, he lauds him. Analysing Guha's first reaction to the sight of Bharata, pundits have maintained that when a person is overcome by *maya* (mirage), he will react in that manner. When overpowered by *maya*, man will lose God. Only Bharata was exempt from such *maya*. Kamba Ramayanam encapsulates this succinctly, with Guha marvelling, "When I behold this self-conquest, [of Bharata] I ask, Can even a thousand Ramas equal thee?" Instead of seeing himself as king in his mind, Bharata could only visualise Rama and Sita seated on the throne of Ayodhya for Rama's coronation. When Rama refused to return to Ayodhya, preferring to finish the *vanvas*, and advised Bharata to obey his father's wishes, as well as of other devas (who wanted Rama to wage war on Ravana), Bharata sought Rama's *paduka* (sandals) in order to symbolically place them on the throne. He made Rama's *paduka* the ruler.

INBRIEF

Arvinder Singh Sahney appointed IOC chairman

Arvinder Singh Sahney has been appointed as chairman of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) from November 13. Prior to the appointment, he was the petrochemical vertical head at the national oil marketing company. Mr. Sahney has more than three decades of expertise in the refinery and petrochemical sector. He takes over from director (marketing) V. Satish Kumar, who was holding additional charge as chairman after the completion of the tenure of S.M. Vaidya.

Adani commits $10 billion in U.S. energy, infra projects

Billionaire Gautam Adani on Wednesday committed to investing $10 billion in energy and infrastructure projects in the United States. "Congratulations to @realDonaldTrump," he posted on X. "As the partnership between India and the United States deepens, the Adani Group is committed to leveraging its global expertise and invest $10 billion in U.S. energy security and resilient infrastructure projects, aiming to create up to 15,000 jobs." PTI

Godrej Industries' Q2 net surges threefold to ₹288 crore

Godrej Industries Ltd. on Wednesday reported that its consolidated net profit for the second quarter ended September 30 surged more than threefold to ₹288 crore year-on-year. Revenue from operations increased 22% to ₹4,805 crore, The firm's board has approved the issuance of up to 1,00,000 rated, listed, unsecured, redeemable, non-convertible debentures having a face value of ₹1,00,000 each, aggregating up to ₹1,000 crore on a private placement basis.

Sensex, Nifty hit a five-month low

Fifth straight losing session at the bourses; shares in the midcap, small cap segments plunged harder than large companies' stocks in what some called a 'correction' mode; foreign investors pull out about $14 billion from India since late September

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The domestic stock market continued to be in a tizzy on Wednesday, with both broad benchmark indices sliding about 1.3% to hit a five-month low by the end of trading in what marked the fifth successive day of decline valuations for Indian shares.

The 30-share S&P BSE Sensex slumped 1.25% or 984 points to close at 77,691 points, led by a drop in metal, auto and banking stocks, while the broader NSE Nifty 50 clocked a sharper plunge of 1.36% to end up at 23,559 points. But the battering was not limited to large corporates, with the BSE Midcap index seeing a steeper decline of 2.56% and the Smallcap gauge tanking 3.08%.

Deep fissures: Several companies have reported their weakest quarterly numbers in over four years. REUTERS

The Sensex stocks which lost the most included Tata Steel (3.40%), M&M (3.36%), Adani Ports (2.78%), State Bank (2.18%), JSW Steel (2.17%), and HDFC Bank (2.16%). The BSE Metal index was down 2.56%, Bankex was down 1.94% and BSE Auto index was down 2.26%.

Analysts attributed the decline to relentless selling pressure from foreign portfolio investors and a confluence of factors that have shaken investor confidence, including anxieties around the implications of newly re-elected U.S. President Donald Trump's economic policies, a surprising surge in domestic inflation, and insipid quarterly results from India Inc.

Deepak Jasani, head of retail research at HDFC Securities said the Nifty has officially entered correction territory with a 10% drop from its recent high.

Several companies have reported their weakest quarterly numbers in over four years, while foreign investors have pulled out about $14 billion from India since late September, pointed out Vikram Kasat, head of advisory at PL Capital, Prabhudas Lilladher.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	77,691	-1.25
US Dollar	84.39	0.00
Gold	77,750	-0.06
Brent oil	71.37	-1.34

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2816.70	-53.30
Adani Ports	1287.90	-38.10
Apollo Hosp	6858.85	-160.70
Asian Paints	2470.50	-4.35
Axis Bank	1139.15	-19.00
Bajaj Auto	9452.15	-226.55
Bajaj Finserv	1664.45	-27.30
Bajaj Finance	6566.00	-72.20
Bharat Elec	281.55	-8.60
Bharti Airtel	1550.45	-5.20
BPCL	305.85	-3.95
Britannia Ind	5046.50	18.95
Cipla	1505.60	-19.55
Coal India	406.90	-7.15
Dr Reddys Lab	1245.00	-18.90
Eicher Motors	4588.70	-149.50
Grasim Ind	2502.90	-18.30
HCL Tech	1864.75	-8.10
HDFC Bank	1681.35	-36.85
HDFC Life	685.05	-14.95
Hero MotoCorp	4519.60	-204.60
Hindalco	626.60	-25.05
Hind Unilever	2464.95	3.45
ICICI Bank	1253.70	-16.90
IndusInd Bank	1036.70	-22.85
Infosys	1868.40	-0.40
ITC	472.20	-0.65
JSW Steel	935.95	-21.30
Kotak Bank	1687.85	-33.55
L&T	3547.95	-43.40
M&M	2798.95	-99.60
Maruti Suzuki	11049.60	-93.50
NestleIndia	2235.25	-20.95
NTPC	381.35	1.05
ONGC	252.55	-3.60
PowerGrid Corp	318.00	-4.70
Reliance Ind	1252.05	-22.20
SBI Life	1546.70	-15.75
State Bank	808.65	-18.05
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2853.85	-77.35
Sun Pharma	1779.00	-21.85
TataConsumerProduct	952.75	-14.80
Tata Motors	786.25	1.40
Tata Steel	139.17	-5.00
TCS	4150.35	-47.05
Tech Mahindra	1675.60	-11.40
Titan	3187.85	-10.60
Trent Ltd.	6498.25	-30.30
UltraTech Cement	10782.20	-109.80
Wipro	569.00	-1.65

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	84.18	84.50
Euro	89.49	89.83
British Pound	107.31	107.73
Japanese Yen (100)	54.35	54.56
Chinese Yuan	11.68	11.72
Swiss Franc	95.40	95.78
Singapore Dollar	62.97	63.22
Canadian Dollar	60.32	60.55
Malaysian Ringitt	18.92	19.01

Source:Indian Bank

Vodafone Idea pares Q2 loss to ₹7,176 cr

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Vodafone Idea Ltd. narrowed its consolidated net loss to ₹7,176 crore in the second quarter ended September 30, from ₹8,738 crore a year ago.

Revenue from operations increased 2% to ₹10,932 crore year-on-year. "Post a successful capital raise, we kickstarted 4G expansion drive on an accelerated trajectory," said CEO Akshaya Moondra.

"We remain engaged with lenders for tying up debt funding towards the execution of our network expansion with planned capex of ₹50,000 crore to ₹55,000 crore," he added.

Debt from banks and financial institutions reduced by ₹4,580 crore during the last one year.

Payment due to the government was ₹2,12,260 crore as of September 30, including deferred spectrum payment obligation of ₹1,41,940 crore and AGR liability of ₹70,320 crore.

Swiggy debuts at a premium of 5.6% on BSE at ₹412

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Swiggy Ltd. debuted at a premium of 5.6% over the issue price of ₹390 at ₹412 a share on the BSE.

Intraday, the food delivery platform's stock surged to ₹465 before closing at ₹455.95 a share, or 10.7% higher than the issue price.

Swiggy had opened bids for its initial public offering (IPO) on November 6 and closed on November 8. The company had sought to raise ₹11,000 crore to finance investments in quick commerce business and brand expansion.

NTPC Green IPO for ₹10,000 cr. on Nov. 19

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

NTPC Green Energy Ltd. will open bids for its ₹10,000 crore initial public offering (IPO) on November 19. The central public sector enterprise has fixed a price band between ₹102 and ₹108 a share for the IPO open till November 22.

The firm will use three-fourths of the proceeds to repay borrowings of wholly owned subsidiary NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.

Financing projects

Most of those borrowings to be repaid, pertain to capital expenditure and debt taken on to finance

The firm will use 75% of the IPO proceeds to repay borrowings of its renewable energy subsidiary

power projects across various States.

Most of the company's 3,320 megawatt installed capacity is concentrated in solar energy as of September. This is also among the risks of the company.

Moreover, all of the company's borrowings as of September, are on floating interest rates, and therefore, the higher interest rates they carry may increase borrowing cost.

₹30 cr. parts stolen: Jet staff body

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A body representing Jet Airways' employees has issued a legal notice to the Jalan Kalrock consortium, alleging that aircraft equipment and parts worth ₹30 crore have been removed illegally and sold in the black market which will reduce its value in the liquidation ordered by Supreme Court last week.

"My clients believe that the said amounts have been misappropriated and details of such illegally obtained amounts have not been informed to the Monitoring Committee of Jet Airways," reads the legal notice sent by Jet Airways Staff and Officers Association to Jet Airways, CoC led by SBI and others.

India's middle class tightens belt, hit by food inflation

Reuters
CHENNAI/NEW DELHI

India's city dwellers are cutting spending on everything from cookies to fast food as persistently high inflation squeezes middle class budgets, threatening the country's brisk economic growth.

Slowing urban spending over the past three to four months has not only hurt the earnings of largest consumer goods firms, it has raised questions about the structural nature of India's long-term economic success. Since the end of the pandemic, India's economic growth has been driven in large part by urban consumption, however, that now seems to be changing.

"There is a top end - the people with money are spending like that is going out of style," Nestle India chairman Suresh Narayanan said.

"There used to be a middle segment, which used to be the segment that most of us fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) firms used to operate in, which is the middle class of the country, that seems to be shrinking." Nestle India, which makes Kit Kat and other well-known goods, reported its first quarterly revenue drop since the COVID-hit June 2020 quarter.

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E-Certificate will be Awarded
Date & Time: 17,23,24,30th Nov - 1,7,8,14, 15th Dec 24 | 2.00 - 6.00 P.M
For more Details:9600776611, 8667359360, 7358887633
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GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
COMMISSIONERATE OF AGRICULTURE, RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR
No.F 36(80)/C.Ag/Comp/SP/New Item/2024-25/987-93 Date: 06/11/2024
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
The Department of Agriculture invites on line proposal at (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) for the procurement of Desktop Computer along with MS Office and Printer. Estimated Cost of procurement is Rs. 200.00 Lakh.
Details may be seen in the bidding document at the website of State Public Procurement Portal (http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in), http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, or e-Procurement Portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) or department's website (http://agriculture.rajasthan.gov.in). The interested bidders may submit their proposals latest by November 27th, 2024 upto 6.00 PM.
UBN NO. AGR2425GLOB00331
(T.K. Joshee)
Additional Director, Agriculture(Ext.)
DIPR/C/11180/2024 Rajasthan, Jaipur

Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North
(Nagar Nigam Bhavan, Polotechnic College Parishar Residency Road, Jodhpur)
(www.nnjnorth.raj.nic.in Tel: 0291-2651483)
S.No. 5183 Date:- 11.11.2024
Notice Inviting Bid
Online Proposals are invited on behalf of Municipal Corporation Jodhpur North (MCJN) from eligible bidders fulfilling eligibility criteria as described in the Bid Documents for work of "Rate Contract (RC) for Supply, delivery, commissioning and O&M of high pressure jetting and high flow sewage machine 10000 liters capacity with safety accessories as per bid document for Nagar Nigam Jodhpur North." The further detailed bid conditions can be download from www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.lsg.rajasthan.gov.in/mcjn Document Will be available on website from Date 13-11-2024
UB NO. DLB2425SLOB11799
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7684 Commissioner

Office of the Project Director
Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project
AVS Building, Jawahar Circle, JLN Marg, Jaipur – 302017 Tel No.: +91 141 2721966,
Fax No.: 0141-2721919 email : mail.ruidp@rajasthan.gov.in, web site: www.ruidp.rajasthan.gov.in
Invitation for Bids No: RSTDSP/OCB/NTL/44
Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project (RSTDSP) - Additional Financing
RSTDSP/NWG/CTYBF/01: City Beautification works at Nawalgarh.
1. Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project (RUIDP) invites online bids on e-proc website from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Online bidding is invited under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) - National procedure of ADB which is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
2. Bid document would be available at e proc website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in starting from 11th November, 2024. Deadline for bid submission is 15:00 hours on 17th December, 2024.
3. Pre-bid Meeting will be held at 15:00 hours on 20th November, 2024. All the prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting.
4. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the e-proc web sites and will not be published in Newspapers.
5. Bidders may contact Additional Project Director, RUIDP (0141-2548404), Jaipur for any information on bidding process. UBN No. : UID2425WSOB00017
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7673 Project Director, RUIDP

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE/CTD/WBSETCL/PROCUREMENT/24-25/2 Date: 14.11.2024
E-Tender is invited for manufacturing, testing, supply & delivery of Transformer turns Ratio Measurement Set along with all associated and required accessories as per technical specification. Bid documents can be downloaded from 14.11.2024, 11:00 A.M. and bids shall be submitted (online) up to 04:00 P.M., 11.12.2024.
Visit the following websites:- https://www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details.
ICA- T20276(3)/2024

OHPC
ODISHA HYDRO POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A GOVT. OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)
CIN:U40101OR1995SGC003963
REGD.OFFICE: OHPC Corporate Office, Bhoi Nagar, Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022
Phone: 91-0674-2542983, 2542802, 2545526, 2542826
E-mail: ohpc.co@gmail.com, website: www.ohpcltd.com
No. OHPC: TECH: C&P: 22/2024-25/ 9659 Date: 08.11.2024
TENDER CALL NOTICE NO.21/2024-25
Sealed Tenders are invited in two-part bidding system i.e. (i) Techno Commercial bid & (ii) Price bid in separate sealed envelopes from the reputed and experienced manpower supply agency / service provider for the work as mentioned below.

Description of Services	Cost of tender papers (Non-refundable) in ₹
Outsourcing of Office Attendant / Attendant, Gardener/Cook, Electrician, Carpenter & Plumber for engagement at OHPC Corporate Office, Training Centre, Residential Offices, Training Hostel & Staff quarters at Bhubaneswar.	10000.00+18%(GST)= 11800.00

For details of the tender documents, terms & conditions and corrigendum etc. please visit our website www.ohpcltd.com from Dt.18.11.2024.
C&P Head
CAD-1595 OIPR-04012/11/0018/2425

Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
No.8, "Samparka Soudha", Dr. Rajkumar Road,
Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bengaluru-560 010. Telefax : 080-22024000
e-mail : mdkrdcl@gmail.com, cekrdcl@gmail.com Website: http://www.krdcl.in
No. KRDCL/IFB/RFP/2024-25/13 Dated: 13-11-2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(through KPP Portal)
Karnataka Road Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) proposes to take up the following bridges on Turnkey basis based on Tenderer's own design on two cover system. The details of proposed bridge works to be taken up for implementation are as below:
Name of the Work: Re-construction of Bridge at Ch. 58.00 and 58.10 km on SH-61 between Managuli and Bijjal across Doni River in Talikote Taluk of Vijayapura District (Call-2). Approx. cost of work (Excl. of GST) : Rs. 20.50 Crore. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs. 20.50 Lakh (Rs. 1.00 Lakh through KPP portal & Remaining through Bank Guarantee). Period of Completion (including monsoon) : 18 months.
Interested applicants may download bidding documents from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and submit the bids & EMD through the portal only.
Bid Security (EMD) shall be paid as mentioned in the document.
The Calendar of events for various activities are as follows: (a) Pre-bid queries, if any shall be submitted on or before 20.11.2024 at 17.00 hrs. through KPP portal / email: cekrdcl@gmail.com (b) Bids must be submitted online only through Karnataka Public Procurement portal on or before 26.11.2024 upto 17.30 hrs. IST. (c) bids will be opened on 28.11.2024 at 11.30 hrs IST.
*Please note henceforth, any changes in the schedule will not be published through Newspapers and further changes will be updated only on KPP portal website. Visit : https://www.krdcl.in
Sd/-
Chief Engineer
KRDCL, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/YC/3187/2024-25

कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(एक महारत्न कंपनी)
"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd www.coalindia.in / respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Procurement Portal htttps://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in".

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle, Chengalpattu.
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.18 / 2024-2025 / SDO / Dt: 12.11.2024
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Percentage tender through online only will be received upto 19.12.2024, 15.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer(H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Circle for Two Bypass Works in respect of Vellore (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division for Construction of Bypasses under CRIDP - 2023 - 2024 & 2024-2025.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, tender documents and all other details are available from 19.11.2024 onwards in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in. If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H)
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle,
Chengalpattu - 1.
DIPR/4898/Tender/2024

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
Tiruchirappalli Construction and Maintenance Circle
TENDER NOTICE
T.N.No.49/2024-25/HDO/Dated: 11.11.2024
For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, Percentage tender through online will be received up to 24.12.2024, 14.00 hours (Server Time) by the Superintending Engineer (H) C&M Tiruchirappalli Circle, Tiruchirappalli-20, for CRIDP 2024-2025 Scheme, one work pertaining to Thiruvarur (H) C&M Division.
Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 16.11.2024 onwards in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in. If any changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.
Superintending Engineer (H),
C&M Circle, Tiruchirappalli -20.
DIPR / 4875 / TENDER / 2024

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BELGARADE

Russian chef and war critic Alexei Zimin found dead in Belgrade

AFP

A famed Russian chef who has been highly critical of Moscow's war in Ukraine has been found dead while on a visit to Serbia's capital, according to several sources on Wednesday. The death of Alexei Zimin, who has been based in London for years, marks the latest passing of a Russian expatriate critical of the Kremlin's war. AFP

SITUBONDO

Indonesia and Australia hold joint drills after 'historic' defence pact

AFP

More than 2,000 Indonesian and Australian troops held joint drills on Wednesday, after the allies signed a new defence pact pledging closer cooperation to counter security threats in the Asia-Pacific region. The four-day exercise named Keris Woomera on Indonesia's main island Java includes air, land, sea and cyber exercises. AFP

WASHINGTON

Republicans pick traditionalist Thune as new U.S. Senate leader

REUTERS

The Republicans in the U.S. Senate picked John Thune as the new leader as lawmakers scrambling to prepare for President-elect Donald Trump's new administration rejected his camp's favoured candidate. Thune bested John Cornyn of Texas in a run-off to replace outgoing party leader Mitch McConnell. AFP

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan court acquits Imran, close aides in Section 144 violation case

REUTERS

In a relief to Imran Khan, a Pakistani court acquitted the former Prime Minister and his close aides in a case involving Section 144 violations. The case was filed on August 20, 2022, at Islamabad's Aabpara police station, alleging violations of public order during the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party-led demonstrations. PTI

Sri Lankans to vote in key parliamentary elections today

A total of 8,821 candidates from various political parties and independent groups are running in the elections, after the country witnessed a political shift; President Dissanayake's NPP alliance, which held just three seats in the last Parliament, is looking for a majority, at least 113 seats in the 225-member House; Opposition parties appear to have conceded early, going by their muted campaigns

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Around 17 million voters in Sri Lanka will on Thursday get to choose their representatives to Parliament, barely two months after Anura Kumara Dissanayake won the presidency in a crucial election held on the heels of a painful economic crisis.

Mr. Dissanayake's ruling alliance is targeting a majority in the legislature, to take forward his policy and legislative pledges. Opposition parties appear to have conceded early, going by their muted campaigns that are pitching a "strong opposition" to the electorate. The ruling National People's Power [NPP] alliance, which held just three seats in the last Parliament, must obtain 113 for an absolute majority in the 225-member House. Voters elect as many as 196 MPs directly, while the remaining 29 members to the House are chosen through a "national list" that allocates seats to parties based on their share of votes as per Sri Lanka's proportional representation system.

A total of 8,821 candidates from various political parties and independent groups are running in the general elections, after the country witnessed a staggering political shift. Mr. Dissanayake's victory in September and the rise of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) he leads – the NPP's chief political constituent – as a formidable third force coincided with the decimation of Sri Lanka's traditional parties, the centre-left Sri Lanka Freedom Party and centre-right United National Party (UNP) and their offshoots that dominated national politics for decades. Several senior politicians from these camps, including the Rajapaksa clan, have opted out of this election.

Breaking barriers: Chanu Nimesha, Sri Lanka's first transgender candidate, campaigns in Warakapola in Sri Lanka. REUTERS

Taking off on Mr. Dissanayake's anti-corruption plank ahead of the presidential polls, the NPP is asking voters to "cleanse the Parliament". It is widely expected that the alliance will secure a majority, owing to two reasons. Political observers point to an "AKD [as the President is popularly known] wave" that endures after the leftist leader of a small party rose to the country's top office. Mr. Dissanayake's vote share grew from 3.16% in the 2019 presidential race to 42.3% in the September election. Further, Sri Lanka's electoral history shows that the party of a newly-elected President often garners a parliamentary majority, especially when the general election is held soon after the presidential poll.

Constructive role

"In the event the NPP gets a majority, the fragmented opposition should come together and play a constructive role in Parliament," says R. Ram, senior political journalist and news editor at Tamil daily *Virakesari*. If the NPP does not get a majority, it should seek post-poll alliances with [ethnic] minority parties rather than with hardline Sinhala-nationalist groups to form government, he contends. "A two-thirds majority is unlikely and certainly not desirable. Absolute power can prove dangerous, especially when there are so many oppressive laws that the government could use [against detractors]."

K.P. Somalatha, who leads a farmers' group in the southern Monaragala district, concurs. "Two-thirds is never a good idea; we have seen how regimes have abused such power," she says. The President has so far "given a strong message", she says. "He is committed to ending corruption. He must also address the grievances of Tamils living in the north and east, and in the hill country where there are many challenges around wages and land rights. That must be a priority for this government."

Meanwhile, regional parties representing ethnic minorities – Tamils of the north and east, Malaiyaha Tamils of the hill country and Muslims – are facing a tough election.

Political groups have split, and several former MPs face sharp criticism within their electorate. Many residing in the island's north and east say voters are ready for "change", implying that the call for change that preceded Mr. Dissanayake's election is now echoing regionally as well. Thursday's election marks the next phase of the political churn that began with the 2022 Janatha Aragalaya (people's struggle) that ousted President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Musk, Ramaswamy appointed advisers

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump on Tuesday said Elon Musk and former GOP presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy will lead a new "Department of Government Efficiency" – which is not, despite the name, a government agency.

The acronym "DOGE" is a nod to Mr. Musk's favorite cryptocurrency, dogecoin. Mr .Trump said in a statement that Mr. Musk and Mr. Ramaswamy will work from outside the government to offer the White House "advice and guidance" and will partner with the Office of Management and Budget to "drive large scale structural reform, and create an entrepreneurial approach to Government never seen before." He added that the move would shock government systems.

It is not clear how the organisation will operate.

Defence Secretary

Meanwhile, Mr. Trump stunned the Pentagon and the broader defence world by nominating Fox News host Pete Hegseth to serve as his defense secretary, tapping someone largely inexperienced and untested on the global stage to take over the world's largest and most powerful military.

'Unwieldy' first draft at Baku sets 2030 goal of $5 trillion for climate action

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Two days into 29th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP), the first major negotiating text that will decide if the two-week-long conclave will be a success has come out. While this is far from any semblance of finality, it lists out the universe of options before 190 countries that they must collectively whittle down – every country's vote is exactly as important as the other – and adopt before the conference ends.

The most prominent feature of the text is an ask of at least $5-6.8 trillion until 2030, as the so called New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance, for developing countries to meet their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), or voluntary targets that are updated periodically, where countries specify targetted action undertaken to reduce carbon emissions and substitute fossil fuel energy sources with renewable energy ones.

Building consensus: Bangladesh's Muhammad Yunus, centre right, attends the COP29 summit in Baku on Wednesday. AP

A member of India's negotiating team told *The Hindu* that currently countries had formed blocks, or negotiating alliances, among themselves and demanded insertions of paragraphs that included everybody's demands.

"The new text does this but, unsurprisingly, it's now much longer and unwieldy, taking us back to the length the text was earlier in the year. It'll need to be streamlined again to be workable," Joe Thwaites, Senior Advocate, International Climate Finance, said in a statement.

British writer Harvey wins Booker Prize

Reuters
LONDON

Britain's Samantha Harvey won the 2024 Booker Prize for *Orbital*, a story about a single day aboard the International Space Station which she wrote during COVID-19 lockdowns.

The novel, Harvey's fifth, was the top selling book on the shortlist of six finalists and has sold more copies than the past three Booker Prize winners combined, as readers lapped up her depiction of earth's beauty as seen from space.

Samantha Harvey

'Intensity of attention'

Judges of the prize praised her writing for the "intensity of attention to the precious and precarious world".

Harvey said she wrote the novel while stuck at home during the pandemic watching footage of the earth in low orbit on her screen. She likened the experience of her six characters "trapped in a tin can" to that of lockdown.

Sport

Manipur stuns defending champion Punjab

HOCKEY

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

After eight days of largely one-sided matches in the Group stage of the Hockey India-14th Senior National men's championship, the quarterfinal ties at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Wednesday turned out to be really absorbing with nearly all the matches going down the wire.

Of the four last-eight contests, two went to penalty shoot-outs and the remaining two were engaging.

In the biggest upset of the tournament, Manipur knocked out defending champion Punjab via tie-breaker (3-3 in regulation time and 4-3 in shoot-out). Later, Odisha entered its first semifinals, with a hard-fought victory over Karnataka in shoot-out (3-1). Haryana, two-time champion and last year's finalist, staged a remarkable comeback to script a 5-1 win – inclusive of a hat-trick by Rohit – over Maharashtra.

Pulling away: Lalit, right, sealed the deal for Uttar Pradesh in its match against Tamil Nadu. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Trailing 0-1 till the third quarter, Haryana scored all its five goals in the fourth quarter. However, it was heartbreak for the host as Uttar Pradesh beat Tamil Nadu 3-1.

The day, however, belonged to Manipur. It is the first time in the history of Nationals a North-Eastern State has reached the last four.

"It is a historic day for us. Beating Punjab is a huge achievement.

"Our experienced players including Olympians Nilakanta Sharma, Kothajit Singh and Chinglensana Singh, quite a few senior Internationals and junior players played really well. We didn't give up till the last," said Manipur's head coach Moirangthem Rinash Meitei.

Thursday is a rest day. In the semifinals on Friday, UP will take on Haryana while Manipur will clash with Odisha.

The results (quarterfinals):

Manipur 3 (Cyril Lugun 30, 36, 51) drew with Punjab 3 (Maninder Singh 18, Ravneet Singh 24, 59); **Penalty shoot-out:** Manipur 4 (Waribam Nirajkumar Singh 2, Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh, Kothajit Singh) bt Punjab 3 (Harjeet Singh, Maninder Singh, Pardeep Singh).

Haryana 5 (Rajinder Singh 48, Rohit 53, 59, 60, Pankaj 54) bt Maharashtra 1 (Aniket Gurav 12).

UP 3 (Chandan Singh 3, Rajkumar Pal 18, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay 34) bt TN 1 (S. Shanmugavel 9).

Odisha 3 (Mangal Lohar 14, Shilanand Lakra 20, Pratap Lakra 50) drew with Karnataka 3 (Pruthvi Raj 5, Bharath Mahalingappa Kurtakoti 11, G. Vishwas 26); Penalty shoot-out: Odisha 3 (Sudeep Chirmako, Matiyas Dang, Sunit Lakra) bt Karnataka 1 (Mohd. Rahul Mouseen).

Alcaraz beats Rublev to open ATP Finals account

Agence France-Presse
TURIN

Carlos Alcaraz opened his account at the ATP Finals on Wednesday with an entertaining 6-3, 7-6(8) win over Andrey Rublev, which boosted his hopes of reaching the semifinals.

World No. 3 Alcaraz comfortably defeated Rublev to lift himself off the bottom of the John Newcombe Group and looked in much better form despite struggling with fatigue and illness in the lead-up to the match.

Top-ranked Jannik Sinner on Tuesday made it two wins in two matches before his home fans, beating Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-4 in a rematch of the U.S. Open final that the Italian also won in straight sets.

Off the mark: Alcaraz looked in much better form and lifted himself from the bottom of his group. AP

As the crowd chanted "Ole, Ole, Ole; Sin-ner, Sinner," the local favourite gave them what they came for by turning up his intensity when it mattered.

The results:

John Newcombe Group: Alcaraz bt Rublev 6-3, 7-6(8).

Ilie Nastase Group: Sinner bt Fritz 6-4, 6-4.

Doubles: Bob Bryan Group: Pavic & Arevalo-Gonzalez bt Bopanna & Ebden 7-5, 6-3.

MIXED LUCK

Sindhu enters second round, Lakshya crashes out in Japan

FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

P.V. Sindhu sailed into the second round but Lakshya Sen bowed out of the Kumamoto Masters Japan Super 500 badminton tournament on Wednesday. Sindhu brushed aside Thailand's Busanan Ongbamrungphan 21-12, 21-18 in the 38 minutes. Lakshya lost 22-20, 17-21, 16-21 to Malaysia's Leong Jun Hao.

BIG RESPONSIBILITY

Parthiv gets dual role with Titans as assistant and batting coach

FILE PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

Gujarat Titans has entrusted former India wicketkeeper-batter Parthiv Patel with the dual responsibility of serving as its assistant and batting coach in the upcoming IPL, the franchise said on Wednesday. The support staff is led by head coach Ashish Nehra. This is the first IPL coaching role for Parthiv, who retired in 2020.

DOUBLE DELIGHT

Sri Lanka beats New Zealand to go 1-0 up in ODI series

AP

Kusal Mendis and Avishka Fernando both slammed centuries to set up a 45-run victory for Sri Lanka in the rain-interrupted first ODI against New Zealand in Dambulla on Wednesday. **The scores:** Sri Lanka 324/5 in 49.2 overs (Fernando 100, Mendis 143, Asalanka 40) bt New Zealand 175/9 in 27 overs. SL won by 45 runs, DLS Method.

FIRING AGAIN

Giants end losing streak as Guman leads the charge against Warriorz

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gujarat Giants ended its seven-match losing streak after an impressive by Guman Singh (17 points) secured a 47-28 win over the Bengal Warriorz in their PKL 11 match in Noida on Wednesday. Haryana Steelers moved to the top of the table and extended its winning run to four games, defeating Patna Pirates 37-32.

Blistering Tilak knock sets up India's exciting win in a run-fest at Centurion

The No. 3 batter hammers seven sixes in his unbeaten century; Abhishek snaps poor run; Klaasen and Jansen raise hopes but South Africa falls short

Blazing away: Tilak smashed the South African bowlers all round the park. AP

INDIA IN SA

Press Trust of India
CENTURION

Tilak Varma (107 not out) produced a batting masterclass while slamming his maiden international hundred as India posted a massive 219 for six against South Africa in the third T20I here on Wednesday.

Tilak got solid support from Abhishek Sharma who made a brisk 50 after South Africa skipper Aiden Markram invited the visitors to bat.

In reply, the Proteas reached 55 for two in the PowerPlay but lost wickets at regular intervals. Heinrich Klaasen (41, 22b, 1x4, 4x6) and Marco Jansen (54, 17b, 4x4, 5x6) played sensational knocks. Though the asking rate was mounting all the time, Klaasen and Jansen's big hits – they smashed nine sixes between them – kept South Africa's hopes alive before it fell short by 11 runs.

On the rampage

Earlier, the 22-year-old Tilak tore into the South African pacers as he hammered seven sixes and eight fours during his innings off a mere 57 balls, powering India to their second highest score against the Proteas in this format.

On his part, Abhishek banished a poor run with the bat with a stroke-laden half-century, scoring 50 off only 25 balls laced with five sixes and three fours as the two southpaws dazzled with the bat.

With his wide array of strokes, Tilak dominated the bowling with complete authority and also helped India stay on course despite the blips. First, he forged a 107-run stand with Abhishek for the second wicket to build a strong platform after the early dismissal of Sanju Samson (0).

As India stuttered in the middle overs with Keshav Maharaj (two for 36) applying the brakes, Tilak ensured his team did not squander the advantage with a late charge – his last 52 runs came off only 22 balls in the last six overs.

At the start, Samson was beaten by low bounce on the second ball from Marco Jansen as the Indian opener, who made a hundred in the first match, fell for a second successive duck in this series.

Abhishek provided a huge relief to the Indian camp with his fifty. The 24-year-old also ended his eight-match barren run as the Men in Blue had the final laugh at Centurion.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Sanju Samson b Jansen 0 *(2b)*, Abhishek Sharma st. Klaasen b Maharaj 50 *(25b, 3x4, 5x6)*, Tilak Varma (not out) 107 *(56b, 8x4, 7x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Jansen b Simelane 1 *(4b)*, Hardik Pandya lbw b Maharaj 18 *(16b, 3x4)*, Rinku Singh b Simelane 8 *(13b)*, Ramandeep Singh run out 15 *(6b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Axar Patel (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-10, nb-3): 19; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 219.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Samson, 0.2 overs), 2-107 (Abhishek, 8.4), 3-110 (Suryakumar, 9.4), 4-132 (Hardik, 12.5), 5-190 (Rinku, 17.5), 6-218 (Ramandeep, 19.5).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING

Jansen 4-0-28-1, Coetzee 3-0-51-0, Sipamla 4-0-45-0, Simelane 3-0-34-2, Markram 2-0-19-0, Maharaj 4-0-36-2.

SOUTH AFRICA

Ryan Rickelton b Arshdeep 20 *(15b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Reeza Hendricks st. Samson b Varun 21 *(13b, 4x4)*, Aiden Markram c Ramandeep b Varun 29 *(18b, 2x6)*, Tristan Stubbs lbw b Axar 12 *(12b, 2x4)*, Heinrich Klaasen c Tilak b Arshdeep 41 *(22b, 1x4, 4x6)*, David Miller c Axar b Hardik 18 *(18b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Marco Jansen lbw b Arshdeep 54 *(17b, 4x4, 5x6)*, Gerald Coetzee (not out) 2 *(3b)*, Andile Simelane (not out) 5 *(2b, 1x4)*; Extras (lb-5, w-1): 6; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 208.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-27 (Rickelton, 2.6), 2-47 (Hendricks, 5.3), 3-68 (Stubbs, 8.5), 4-84 (Markram, 9.6), 5-142 (Miller, 15.5), 6-167 (Klaasen, 17.4), 7-202 (Jansen, 19.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Arshdeep 4-0-37-3, Hardik 4-0-50-1, Axar 4-0-29-1, Varun 4-0-54-2, Bishnoi 4-0-33-0.

Toss: South Africa.

PoM: Tilak.

India won by 11 runs to lead series 2-1.

Fourth and final T20I: November 15, Johannesburg, 8.30 p.m. IST.

Coach Harendra admits to several areas of concerns

Expectations: With India not converting many of its PCs, it will need the likes of Sangita Kumari to keep scoring goals. R.V. MOORTHY

Uthra Ganesan
RAJGIR

A rest day in the middle of a hockey tournament usually means at least some of the teams turning up for optional, limited practice. That isn't the case here with the Rajgir Sports Complex deserted on Wednesday as the teams preferred to focus on rest and rehabilitation.

With its next match on Thursday against Thailand, India can also afford to take it easy. The host has a 100% record in eight games between the two sides and Thailand, the lowest-ranked side in the competition, is expected to be an easy outing for the team.

The two games played so far, however, have been contrasting in terms of performances with several areas of concern and coach Harendra Singh admitted as much after India scraped past a fighting Korea on Tuesday.

"I am happy with the result and three points in the pocket but I think we could have scored at least 7-8 goals. Like the first match, they were rushing to score the goal and not making the right choice of space. They need to take some time. We will go back and look at the videos, hold individual meetings and try to polish the finer points to score more goals," he admitted.

While he insisted there was no cause for concern in the penalty corner department – India has converted just three out of 19 so far – the numbers indicate it is not an area India can depend on to get its goals. On the other hand, India has conceded just three PCs and a PS so far but Korea's 100% conversion rate was a lesson for the Indian defence as well.

Thailand may just be the opposition for the Indian team to get back into form and work on its chinks before the two big games in the league stage against China and Japan.

SNAPSHOTS

India women to host West Indies and Ireland

MUMBAI: The Indian women's team will host West Indies and Ireland for limited-overs series starting December 15, the BCCI announced here on Wednesday. Both the ODI series will be part of the ICC championship.

The schedule:

Against West Indies: T20Is: Dec. 15, 17 and 19 (all matches at Navi Mumbai); **ODIs:** Dec. 22, 24 and 27 (all at Baroda),

Against Ireland: ODIs: Jan. 10, 12 and 15 (all at Rajkot).

India u-19 squad for Asia Cup

CHENNAI: India's 15-member u-19 squad for the Asia Cup to be held in the UAE was picked on Wednesday.

The squad: Mohd. Amaan (Capt.), Kiran Chormale (Vice-capt.), Ayush Mhatre, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, C Andre Siddarth, Pranav Pant, Harvansh Singh Pangalia (wk), Anurag Kawde (wk), Hardik Raj, Md. Enaan, K.P. Karthikeya, Samarth Nagaraj, Yudhajit Guha, Chetan Sharma, and Nikhil Kumar;

Non-travelling reserves: Sahil Parakh, Naman Pushpak, Anmoljeet Singh, Pranav Raghavendra, and D. Dipesh.

India's schedule: Nov. 30: vs Pakistan (Dubai); Dec. 2: Japan (Sharjah); Dec. 4: UAE (Sharjah). *All matches at 10.30 a.m. IST.*

Aishwary-Sanjeeta snatch the mixed air rifle gold

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Sanjeeta Das usurped the gold medal from the grasp of the Koreans, Hyobeen Kim and Junhwan Lee, in the mixed air rifle event of the World University shooting at the Dr. Karni Singh Range on Wednesday.

Trailing 11-15 with the Koreans on the threshold of victory, Aishwary and Sanjeeta came up with perfect shots of 10.9 each to narrow the gap to 13-15. Sanjeeta was the better of the two, as she shot 10.7 and 10.5 on her next two attempts.

Ably supported with 10.3 and 10.4 by Aishwary, the duo comfortably fetched four more points for an improbable victory.

The Koreans withered under pressure, shooting a half point less than the Indians to bring the score to 15-15, And then got beaten by 1.3 point for the gold on the next shot. The effort helped India finish with 10 gold, nine silver and seven bronze medals.

Clutch performance: Aishwary and Sanjeeta came up with the goods when it mattered most. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

The only other medal for India, on the final day, came through the men's rapid fire pistol team. Raajwardan Paatil made the final among the three Indians, and finished fifth.

In mixed skeet, the Indian teams placed sixth and eighth. Italy's Giada Longhi and Francesco Bernardini won the gold, beating Cyprus 42-40.

The results: 25m rapid fire pistol:

Men: 1. Yan Chesnel (Fra) 33 (586); 2. Seoyeong Yoon (Kor) 29 (585); 3. Filip Wagner (Pol) 26 (582); 5. Raajwardan Paatil 16 (578); 7. Rajkanwar Sandhu 576; 11. Sameer 571; **Team:** 1. Korea 1739; 2. India 1725; 3. Italy 1687.

10m air rifle mixed team: 1. India (Sanjeeta Das, Aishwary Tomar) 17 (633.0); 2. Korea (Hyobeen Kim, Junhwan Lee) 15 (631.7); 3. Poland (Julia Piotrowska, Maciej Kowalewicz) 16 (629.8); 4. India-2 (Manini Kaushik, Umamahesh Maddineni) 0 (628.7).

Skeet Mixed team: 1. Italy (Francesco Bernardini, Giada Longhi) 42 (145); 2. Cyprus (Anastasia Eleftheriou, Petros Englezoudis) 40 (142); 3. Italy-2 (Paolo Micheli, Damiana Paolacci) 43 (142); 6. India-2 (Mansi Raghuwanshi, Harmehar Singh Lally) 135; 8. India (Yashasvi Rathore, Abhay Singh Sekhon) 132.

Abdusattorov moves into the sole lead; Praggnanandhaa, Nihal hold Carlsen

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOLKATA

If Magnus Carlsen needed any more confirmation that he was indeed in India, it came on the opening day of the Tata Steel Chess India. All his three opponents at the impressive Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium on Tuesday were Indians.

His young Indian rivals also reminded him how difficult it was to score points off them these days. The World No. 1 from Norway was held by R. Praggnanandhaa and Nihal Sarin, but bounced back to beat Vidit Gujrathi in his last game of the day.

The star of the opening day was Nodirbek Abdusattorov. The youngster from Uzbekistan moved into an early sole lead in the rapid section of the tournament, scoring 2.5 points.

S.L. Narayanan, making his debut in the tournament, had an opportunity to catch up with him but let Arjun Eraigisi off the hook with a draw.

That meant Narayanan was pushed to the joint second position, along with Carlsen and Wesley So of the United States. Six more rounds remain though, so much more could happen over the next two days of rapid chess.

In the women's event, there is no sole leader yet. There is a three-way tie at the top, featuring Russians Aleksandra Goryachkina and Kateryna Lagno and Vantika Agrawal of the host. They are all on two points.

It was a fine day for Vantika, one of India's brightest stars from the golden triumph at the Chess Olympiad. She beat Valentina Gunina of Russia in the opening round and then drew with Nana Dzagnidze of Georgia and the top-seeded Alexandra Kosteniuk of Switzerland.

Star of the day: Abdusattorov got ahead of the pack in the rapid section. DEBASISH BHADURI

The results:

Men (third round): Wesley So (USA) 2 drew with Vincent Keymer (Ger) 0.5; Arjun Erigaisi 1.5 drew with S.L. Narayanan 2; Magnus Carlsen (Nor) 2 bt Vidit Gujrathi 0.5; Daniil Dubov (Rus) 1.5 drew with Nihal Sarin (Rus) 1.5; Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzb) 2.5 bt R. Praggnanandhaa 1.

Second round: Keymer lost to Abdusattorov; Praggnanandhaa drew with Dubov; Gujrathi drew with Arjun; Narayanan drew with So.

First round: Narayanan bt Keymer; So bt Gujrathi; Arjun drew with Nihal; Carlsen drew with Praggnanandhaa; Dubov drew with Abdusattorov.

Women (third round): Aleksandra Goryachkina (Rus) 2 drew with D. Harika 1.5; Vantika Agrawal 2 drew with Nana Dzagnidze (Geo) 1.5; R. Vaishali 1 drew with Alexandra Kosteniuk (Swi) 1; Kateryna Lagno (Rus) 2 bt Valentina Gunina (Rus) 1; Koneru Humpy 1.5 drew with Divya Deshmukh 1.5.

Second round: Harika drew with Humpy; Divya drew with Lagno; Gunina bt Vaishali; Kosteniuk drew with Vantika; Dzagnidze drew with Goryachkina.

First round: Dzagnidze drew with Harika; Goryachkina bt Kosteniuk; Vantika bt Gunina; Lagno drew with Humpy.

Pacers Koushik, Vidyadhar run through Uttar Pradesh

Duo shares eight wickets to roll the opposition over for 89; debutant Shrijith's unbeaten 68 steadies a rocking ship for the visitors as they eke out a 38-run lead

RANJI TROPHY

Dhurva Prasad
LUCKNOW

The bowlers, led by V. Koushik, provided Karnataka with the perfect platform for a much-needed outright win by skittling Uttar Pradesh (UP) for 89, before the batters huffed and puffed to take a 38-run first-innings lead on the opening day of the Ranji Trophy Group-C contest at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium here.

A thick early morning haze enveloped the venue and UP's batters couldn't shake it off as seamers Koushik and Vidyadhar Patil reduced the host to five for three inside the first five overs on a pitch with live grass.

Vidyadhar drew first blood, knocking Abhishek Goswami's leg-stump with one that tailed into him.

Early inroads: Koushik celebrates after dismissing Kaushik. SANDEEP SAXENA

Rich form

Koushik continued his rich vein of form, inducing Madhav Kaushik's outside edge with extra bounce before castling skipper Aryan Juyal, and just like that UP's top run-scorers this season were back in the hut off consecutive deliveries.

A 21-run stand between debutants Rituraj Sharma and Aaditya Sharma could only keep the pacers at bay for a while as the latter was strangled down leg, but didn't seem too pleased with the umpire's decision.

Debutant fast bowler Yashovardhan Parantap missed his lines initially, but joined the party when Rituraj got an outside edge to the slip cordon trying to defend one that angled in from around the wicket.

Koushik completed his fifer with Sameer Rizvi edging behind attempting for an expansive drive as the lower-order hardly offered any resistance.

Karnataka was threatened with a similar fate, but debutant Krishnan Shrijith struck a composed knock under pressure after Aaqib Khan trapped Nikin Jose and R. Smaran in front in the second over.

He added 48 runs with skipper Mayank Agarwal and held firm amidst some poor shot-making, which included Manish Pandey tamely poking in the channel to be caught behind.

The scores: **Uttar Pradesh – 1st innings:** Abhishek Goswami b Vidyadhar 5, Madhav Kaushik c Smaran b Koushik 0, Rituraj Sharma c Smaran b Yashovardhan 12, Aryan Juyal b Koushik 0, Aaditya Sharma c Shrijith b Vidyadhar 9; Vipraj Nigam b Mohsin 6, Sameer Rizvi c Shrijith b Koushik 25, Kritagya Singh c Jose b Koushik 13, Saurabh Kumar b Koushik 13, Shivam Mavi c Smaran b Vidyadhar 0, Aaqib Khan (not out) 0; Extras (b-1, lb-4, w-1): 6; Total (in 40.3 overs): 89.

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-5, 3-5, 4-26, 5-37, 6-37, 7-56, 8-82, 9-89.

Karnataka bowling: Koushik 16-8-20-5, Vidyadhar 9.3-3-22-3, Parantap 6-1-19-1, Mohsin 9-2-23-1.

Karnataka – 1st innings: Nikin Jose lbw b Aaqib 0, Mayank Agarwal b Saurabh 30, R. Smaran lbw b Aaqib 0, Krishnan Shrijith (batting) 68, Manish Pandey c Juyal b Mavi 6, Abhinav Manohar c Juyal b Mavi 6, Shreyas Gopal (batting) 14; Extras (lb-3): 3; Total (for five wkts. in 31 overs): 127.

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-5, 3-53, 4-74, 5-84.

Uttar Pradesh bowling: Mavi 11-2-52-2, Aaqib 7-0-31-2, Saurabh 12-2-38-1, Nigam 1-0-3-0.

RANJI SCORES — ROUND 5 (DAY 1)

Elite: **Group-A: Cuttack:** Maharashtra 162 in 54 overs (Ramakrishna Ghosh 80, Sumit Sharma 4/39) vs Odisha 99/1 in 34 overs (Swastik Samal 56 batting, Sandeep Pattnaik 41 batting); **Toss:** Maharashtra.
Vadodara: Meghalaya 103 in 36.5 overs (Akash Choudhary 40, Mahesh Pithiya 6/25) vs Baroda 308/6 in 52.4 overs (Jyotsnil Singh 121, Shivalik Sharma 42, Shashwat Rawat 90 batting); **Toss:** Meghalaya.
Jammu: Tripura 165 in 50.3 overs (Mandeep Singh 67, Auqib Nabi 6/54) vs Jammu & Kashmir 82/3 in 29 overs (Shubham Khajuria 46 batting); **Toss:** J&K.
Delhi: Services 192/6 in 64 overs (Shubham Rohilla 56, Mohit Ahlawat 76) vs Mumbai; **Toss:** Mumbai.
Group-B: Nagpur: Gujarat 281/6 in 86 overs (Priyank Panchal 88, Vishal Jayswal 110 batting, Chintan Gaja 43 batting) vs Vidarbha; **Toss:** Vidarbha.
Dharamshala: Pondicherry 85 in 34 overs vs Himachal 147/2 in 41 overs (Shubham 58); **Toss:** HP.
Hyderabad: Hyderabad 244/5 in 90 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 124 batting) vs Andhra; **Toss:** Hyderabad.

Arjun Tendulkar (Goa, 5/25). FILE PHOTO: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Pithiya (Baroda, 6/25). FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Dehradun: Rajasthan 362/4 in 82 overs (Mahipal Lomror 141 batting, Kartik Sharma 113 batting) vs Uttarakhand; **Toss:** Uttarakhand.
Group-C: Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh 89 in 40.3 overs (V. Koushik 5/20) vs Karnataka 127/5 in 31 overs (Krishnan Shrijith 68 batting); **Toss:** UP.
Indore: Bengal 228 in 51.2 overs (Shahbaz Ahmed 92, Anustup Majumdar 44, Aryan Pandey 4/47, Kulwant Khejroliya 4/84) vs MP 103/1 in 30 overs (Shubranshu Senapati 44 batting, Rajat Patidar 41 batting); **Toss:** MP.
Mohali: Bihar 135 in 56.2 overs (Ayush Loharuka 63) vs Punjab; **Toss:** Punjab.
Rohtak: Kerala 138/2 in 54 overs (Rohan Kunnummal 55, Akshay Chandran 51 batting) vs Haryana; **Toss:** Haryana.
Group-D: Raipur: Assam 264/6 in 87 overs (Parvej Musaraf 42, Denish Das 104, Sumit Ghadigaonkar 54 batting) vs Chhattisgarh; **Toss:** Chhattisgarh.
Chandigarh: Saurashtra 299/2 in 79 overs (Harvik Desai 99, Chirag Jani 153 batting) vs Chandigarh; **Toss:** Chandigarh.
Delhi: Jharkhand 136/3 in 55 overs (Sharandeep Singh 64 batting) vs Delhi; **Toss:** Delhi.
Ahmedabad: Railways 229 in 80.2 overs (Suraj Ahuja 52, Mohammad Saif 60, Bhargav Merai 53, Ajith Ram 4/44) vs Tamil Nadu 19 for no loss in three overs; **Toss:** TN.
Plate: **Porvorim:** Arunachal Pradesh 84 in 30.3 overs (Arjun Tendulkar 5/25) vs Goa 414/2 in 54 overs (Suyash Prabhudessai 73, Kashyap Bakle 179 batting, Snehal Kauthankar 146 batting); **Toss:** AP.
Anand: Manipur 286/6 in 90 overs (Ronald Longjam 40, Pheiroijam Jotin 127 batting, Langlonyamba Meitan Keishangbam 76) vs Sikkim; **Toss:** Sikkim.
Nadiad: Nagaland 363/3 in 90 overs (Dega Nischal 145, Chetan Bist 120 batting) vs Mizoram; **Toss:** Mizoram.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

15 wickets fall on day one

BENGALURU: Fifteen wickets fell on day one of Karnataka's Cooch Behar (under-19) Trophy match against Delhi at the Alur grounds on Wednesday. After the home side bundled out Delhi for 193, with starring roles from N. Samarth (4/43) and K.P. Karthikeya (3/52), Karnataka slumped to 53 for five by stumps.
The scores: Delhi 193 in 66.3 overs (Manthan Tanwar 37, Pranav Pant 30, Aditya Bhandari 41, Mohak Kumar 27, N. Samarth 4/43, K.P. Karthikeya 3/52) vs. Karnataka 53 for five in 23 overs.

Gopika triumphs

M. Gopika of Silicon City Academy won the Mindtrick 2024 chess tournament, conducted by BMS College of Commerce and Management (BMSCCM).
The tournament attracted 250 players from over 100 colleges. Adithya Sakthimani (RV College of Engineering) and Karthik Krishna (IHM) finished second and third respectively.

Third Mini Olympic Games from today

The third edition of the Mini Olympic Games commences on Thursday.
The State-level under-14 tournament will be inaugurated by Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Thursday.
Around 4,000 athletes are expected to compete in the tournament, which features 24 disciplines including tennis, athletics, badminton and swimming.
The State government has sanctioned ₹3 crore for the conduct of the event, Karnataka Olympic Association president K. Govindaraj said on Wednesday. The Games will conclude on November 20.

LIVE TELECAST

Ranji Trophy: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 9.30 a.m.
Hockey: Women's ACT, Sony LIV, 12.15, 2.30 & Thailand vs India, 4.45 p.m.
Australia vs Pakistan: 1st T20I, Star Sports 1 & Hotstar, 1.30 p.m.
Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 & LIV, 2.30 p.m. onwards
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.
West Indies vs England: 3rd T20I, FanCode, 1.30 a.m. (Friday).

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